PARANORMAL UNDERGROUND®

Volume 11 , Issue 2

February 2018

KAREN ANDERSON
FROM DEPUTY SHERIFF TO ANIMAL COMMUNICATOR

5 Haunted
NEW ENGLAND HOTSPOTS

DOPPELGANGERS, TWINS & CLONES

COPS VS. ALIENS

What Is a
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The Mythical Grim Reaper

The Horror Movies We Can't Wait to See in 2018

Spirit Attachment, Spirit Possession, or Paranormal Refugee?

Paranormal Inquest's Dr. Bryan Farha

THE HUNTRESS, THE MEDIUM, THE SHARP SHOOTER, THE TRAITOR, AND

THE FALLEN . . .

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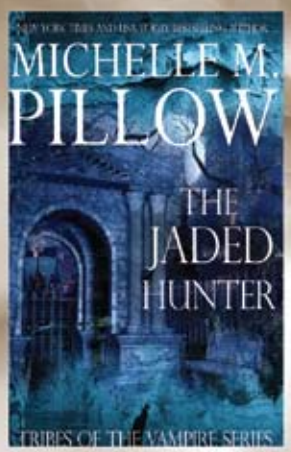
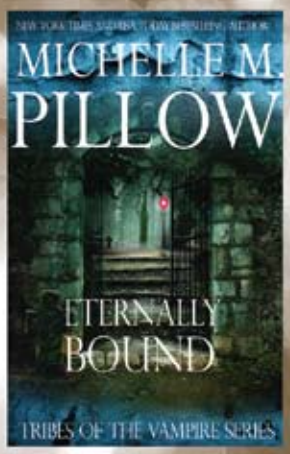
INTRODUCING

MICHELLE M. PILLOW

NYT & USA TODAY BESTSELLING AUTHOR

AWARD WINNIG AUTOR





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www.MichellePillow.com

PARANORMAL UNDERGROUND
CONTRIBUTOR & GUEST WRITER
FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS

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Willie has appeared on A&E's *Cursed: The Bell Witch* and CMTs *Most Shocking Ghosts*. He also hosted his own public access show in Louisville, Kentucky, for 12 years, called *Spiritual Gifts and Wonders*. In addition, he has his own group of sensitives, called Soul Warriors, who are based all over the US.

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As an investigator, Rick considers himself to be a Modern Traditionalist, meaning he believes in melding the new and old schools of psychical research.

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Jack has appeared on *Paranormal Survivor* and *Haunted Case Files* TV series. When Jack is not working on one of his other projects, you can find him giving lectures and attending paranormal events and fundraisers throughout New England.

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Cheryl is editor-in-chief of *Paranormal Underground* magazine and producer of *Paranormal Underground Radio*. She has more than 25 years of experience as a professional writer and editor and has published hundreds of articles on topics ranging from advanced technology to paranormal investigation.

Cheryl's previous magazine experience includes roles as senior and managing editor for several niche publications.

https://paranormalunderground.net/

MORGAN LINEBERRY

Morgan is a graduate from the University of North Carolina in Greensboro where she obtained a bachelor's degree in English. She has a normal day job and is not affiliated with any paranormal groups, Websites, or businesses.

She loves to write and maintains a healthy fascination with all things paranormal thanks to experiences with the unexplained that she has experienced throughout her life. Morgan knows a little bit about a lot of paranormal topics from research she has conducted. She pledges to keep you up to date about what is going bump in the night via *Paranormal Underground's* monthly news column.

CATHERINE PHELAN

Catherine has been writing and editing for the Web since moving to New York City. Her first memory is of realizing that C A T meant cat — and she hasn't stopped reading since. Recently, Catherine has been making her way through the classic mystery novels of Agatha Christie.

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MICHELLE M. PILLOW

Michelle is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author writing in many fiction genres, including the Dragon-Shifter series *Dragon Lords* and *Captured by a Dragon-Shifter* and the mischievously magical *Warlocks MacGregor*. A skeptical believer, she has a fascination with anything paranormal.

Michelle loves to travel and try new things, whether it's a paranormal investigation of an old Vaudeville theater or

climbing Mayan temples in Belize. She has a BGS in history/business with an English minor and a photography degree. She is the co-owner of www.TheRavenBooks.com.

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Rainbow is a paranormal, abductee, and cryptid researcher along with her husband, Michael. She is an experiencer herself, dealing with paranormal phenomenon since childhood. The silk road of life has led Rainbow in many directions: cowgirl, medicine woman, gypsy, belly dancer, and truthseeker. All directions have paralleled each other, finally coming together in Rainbow's articles, research, and blogs.

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Bader is a digital journalist and self-published writer. He is a solitary, eclectic Wiccan interested in the darker side of magic and divination, as well as a "Gothic guy" who tries to educate whenever he cans.

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The Lineup is home to the web's creepiest and most mysterious stories. They seek out gritty tales of historical true crimes, horror, and the paranormal, and then they share their latest dark obsession with fellow enthusiasts.

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Krystle is a long-time paranormal enthusiast and professional writer with a bachelor's degree in print journalism. When she isn't composing pieces for her own paranormal blog, GetSpooked.net, she's recording her popular podcast, *All Day Paranormal*.

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Besides being a published author and a philosopher in physics/science with a master's in ancient alchemy, Maria Anna is also a medium with psychometric and remote viewing capabilities. She wrote The NWO, Their Thoughts ... Your Life: It's Time to Wake Up, We Are the Illusion!; Our Mind in a Controlled Quantum Euclidean Space?: Natural and Unnatural Energies as a Global Weapon for Mind and Behavior Control; and The Source of Immortality: The Global Elite and Their Fountain of Youth.

Over the past 20 years, Maria Anna has spoken to people with stories to tell in order to get to the details of strange and remarkable secrets and phenomena.

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Ian is an author, journalist, and screenwriter based in the UK. He is the author of *Witchcraft and Black Magic in British Cult Cinema*. He also occasionally performs stand-up comedy. Before writing for *Paranormal Underground*, his biggest claim to fame was being killed by a dragon in a thankfully long-forgotten TV show called *Dark Knight*.

Ian has been interested in the paranormal his entire life — one of his earliest memories is waking up to find a tall shadow wearing a top hat watching him through his bedroom window when his bedroom window was two stories off the ground. And, he has had several near-misses with evil entities, although now that he's happily married he can put most of those bad dating experiences behind him.

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CHAD WILSON

A freelance writer, Chad is the publisher of *Paranormal Underground* magazine and co-producer of *Paranormal Underground Radio*. His interest in the paranormal led to the creation of www.ParanormalUnderground.net.

Chad has investigated with East Tennessee Paranormal Research Society and counts Waverly Hills Sanatorium, the Villisca Axe Murder House, Bobby Mackey's Music World, the Queen Mary, Queen Anne Hotel, Hotel Alex Johnson, and private residences among his investigations.

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JOHN YOUNG

John became a news reporter in the Marine Corps in the early '70s. He writes on a wide variety of subjects. Before that, he served in the US Army during the Vietnam War. After leaving the Corps, he worked in many other fields, including as a news reporter, photojournalist, editor on a weekly publication, surgical technician, truck driver, and route salesman security guard, among other jobs. But writing is what he likes best.

http://hubpages.com/@jy3502 ◆

Do you have a dream you would like to have interpreted in Paranormal Underground magazine? Email editor@paranormalunderground.net with a detailed description of your dream, and we will interpret it for you and possibly publish it in an upcoming magazine.

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Will We Be Ready for Disclosure?

What would the world do if irrefutable proof of intelligent alien life in the Universe appeared? Would we think: *Finally! It's about time for this long-overdue disclosure*? Would we be afraid of the unknown? Would we be excited about the possibilities of connecting with an extraterrestrial race?

Chad Wilson, Publisher

Personally, I think it is a given that Earth's humanity is not alone. We are just one of many species in existence. But there are many people who believe that we are alone; that Earth is the only planet holding intelligent life.

So, for those who are adamant that we are alone, what will disclosure mean for them? Is there a book somewhere titled *How to Speak to Aliens*? I know protocols actually exist; they were created along with the SETI program many years ago. I just wonder if a cover-up would ensue. I can see it now: Scientists discover something that leads them to the conclusion that aliens exits, whether from a signal from space, physical proof in the form of the discovery of extraterrestrial structures, or even the aliens themselves making their presence known. While scientists try to verify this discovery with their colleagues around the world, governments rush in to try and control the narrative.

Eventually, though, word leaks out; a discovery has been made. Our civilization sits at a crossroads. Do we welcome the news of the discovery of aliens with open arms? Or do we deny the very facts in front of us in an attempt to protect our view of how things are supposed to be?

I think religion might be the hardest hit, as people realize that we are not alone and begin questioning their beliefs. Does God exist? Does he not? Did he/she/it also create the aliens? So many questions with few answers. Of course, the aliens themselves could answer some of those questions, if they were around to do so.

Questions would remain, though, and I feel some would say the aliens were a ruse to distract us from the reality of who they actually were. Distrust would eventually take hold with some, but I feel the majority of the citizens of our planet would welcome our alien brothers with open arms, eager to learn whatever they could teach us.

Hopefully, we wouldn't try to control or destroy the aliens. I guess that would be the true test of our progress into a more enlightened age. As a society, we tend to fear that which we don't understand. Hopefully, the aliens, maybe in conjunction with the governments around the world, could expose the populace to the idea of the existence of aliens gradually. That could be happening even as we speak, as the idea of the existence of aliens has gradually become more mainstream over recent years.

Sometime soon our new alien brothers could be introduced to the world. I just wonder how we will react to the news when that day comes. Will we be ready? ◆

March 2–4
UFO Paranormal Summit
Quinault Resort & Casino
Ocean Shores, Washington
http://conference.ufosummit.com/

March 10–11
Gift of Light Columbus Spring Expo
Ohio Expo Center – Lausche Building
Columbus, Ohio
http://www.giftoflightexpo.com/

March 17, 2018
Texas Metaphysical & Paranormal Unity Fest
Somervell County Expo Center
Glen Rose, Texas
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/7th-annual-texas-metaphysical-paranormal-unity-fest-tickets-38975241998

March 23–25
Oregon Ghost Conference
Seaside Civic & Convention Center
Seaside, Oregon
http://www.oregonghostconference.com/

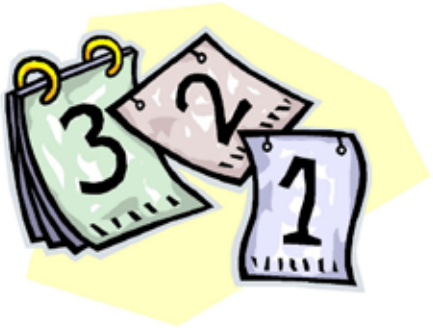
April 7
Midwest Parafest
Toledo Yacht Club
Toledo, Ohio
http://www.erieshoresparanormal.com/?page_id=597

April 13–14
Salem Con 4
Salem, Massachusetts
http://www.mghparanormal.com/

April 13–15
Ozark Mountain UFO Conference
Best Western Inn Of The Ozarks Convention Center
Eureka Springs, Arkansas
https://ozarkufoconference.com/

April 14–15
Gift of Light Cleveland Spring Expo
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
Berea, Ohio
http://www.giftoflightexpo.com/

April 21
Southeast Texas Bigfoot Conference
Walker County Fair Association
Huntsville, Texas



https://www.eventbrite.com/e/south-east-texas-bigfoot-conference-tickets-34678055999

April 21–22
Old St. Joseph Hospital Psychic & Paranormal Fair
Lorain, Ohio
http://www.tcghohio.org/fair-show-information.html

April 28
Butler Paranormal Conference
Lyndora, Pennsylvania
https://www.facebook.com/events/348127268959715/?active_tab=about

April 29
New England Para-Fest 2018
Kittery Community Center
Kittery, Maine
http://www.essexcountyghostproject.org/

May 4–6
Supercon 2018
Edinburgh Manor
Scoth Grove, Iowa
https://serenitymoore11.wixsite.com/supercon2018

May 5
Ohio Bigfoot Conference
Salt Fork State Park Lodge and Conference Center
Lore City, Ohio
http://ohiobigfootconference.org/

May 5–6
Paranormal Supernatural Conference
PPA Event Center
Denver, Colorado
https://constancecoo.wixsite.com/psc2018

E-mail your paranormal event to editor@paranormalunderground.net. ◆

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Haunted Motorbike, Buy-A-Ghost, Government's UFO Investigation, & Dreaming in Alternate Dimensions

By Morgan Lineberry

Ghost Rider

A video recently emerged seeming to depict a ghostly motorbike cruising the highway — or a regular motorbike hijacked by a ghost. Critics are still undecided.

The creepy clip was filmed in Malaysia and seems to show Casper taking a late-night thrill ride down the road. "Spooky footage shows a bike traveling along a mostly deserted motorway with ease — despite the fact that no

visible rider can be seen aboard," according to Gabriel Zamfir and Natalie Evans of the *Mirror*.

What strikes me as odd and truly paranormal is that the bike is going slowly and steadily forward, not wobbling or slowing down. As one commenter on social media said, according to the *Mirror* article: "Oh my goodness, this is so eerie. I'm getting goosebumps. If it were me, I would turn the throttle to the maximum and get out of there." I am with you, buddy! This sounds like a Stephen King novel in the making.

Another commenter, however, felt that "the rider actually fell down from the bike that is why the motor was still moving even without a rider." Again, the bike does not appear to be wobbling or slowing as it would if it were rough and riderless. Healthy skepticism is always welcome, but this time I'm calling ghost!

Ghosts for Sale

I hate dolls at the best of times. They give me the creeps more than anything else. With this being said, I was not happy to learn that Websites like eBay are selling more than cheap gadgets and second-hand goods. They are selling ghosts — and people are buying. Quite frankly my first impression upon reading this news was WHY?! But then again, who am I to judge?

"Most items, according to the owner of Haunted-Dollys, come from collectors of the macabre who are looking to downsize their collections," according to a report from paranormalwarehouse.com.

So, let me get this straight; people who have clearly never seen a horror movie (or at least never learned from one) collect haunted items. That means they brings spirits into their house on purpose. Then, because it's getting a little crowded or a few ghosts keep complaining about not having enough hot water, they sell some of their items to

other people who also knowingly bring spirits into their house. Sounds like fun!

But wait, there's a catch! "Rules and regulations have been put in place for such items, due to complaints from buyers stating that their object was indeed not haunted upon arrival," Paranormal Warehouse reported.

Can you imagine the customer complaint? "The doll is terrifying, but I was thoroughly disappointed when it did not try to kill me in my sleep." I understand having a hobby, but whatever happened to safe hobbies like bungee jumping or freediving? (Did I mention that I hate dolls?)

U.S. Government Investigates UFOs

It has been confirmed that the United States government has a department "dedicated to the investigation of UFO-related phenomena." This is enough to make *The X-Files* fans and UFO enthusiasts alike jump for joy, probably while yelling "I knew it!" because, let's be honest — we all knew it. The details surrounding this confirmation are intriguing to say the least.

"Tucked in the fifth floor of the Pentagon, in a remote area known as C Ring," lies a part of the government investigation program known as the "Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program," according to midnightinthedesert.com. It has been in place since 2007, and "although details of the program remain enshrouded in military secrecy, some of its projects have been made public" thanks to the individuals working on them.

These individuals have confirmed that multiple reports have been studied, including "sightings of high-speed flying objects that showed no signs of a propulsion mechanism or others that were able to hover, as if by magic." This is validation for those who believe in extra-terrestrial life, as well as those of us (yes, myself included) who believe we have seen an unidentified flying object.

It also debunks the continual claim that all of our sightings can be explained away by weather balloons or atmospheric disturbances. Something more must be happening if the government is receiving funding for these investigations.

Dimensional Dreaming

The questions of what dreams are, what causes them, and where they come from have been around for decades. Scientist, philosophers, poets, and regular people have wondered about them.

"One of the more unusual and stranger ideas out there concerning dreams is that they literally take us to new worlds and realms on the fringes of our understanding," allowing us to literally leave our dimension and enter another reality if only for a brief glimpse, according to a post by Brent Swancer on mysteriousuniverse.org.

I have heard multidimensional theories before where, "the basic idea is that there are other realities that perhaps branch off of our own and simultaneously coexist in the same time and space as us," as described by Swancer. Essentially, these other realities allow alternate decisions to play out. Consider it: When I picked pancakes instead of waffles this morning (a decision I would never make in this reality) alternate dimensional me ate waffles and therefore altered the course of her reality; a reality that is now playing out somewhere else.

The concept that dreams can take us to these realities "ponders the question of whether our dreams are at least at times offering us glimpses of alternate universes beyond our ordinary perceived reality," Swancer wrote in his blog. This is a riveting theory, but I do not feel it explains all dreams.

Last night I dreamt I lived in a large tree trunk that was actually a real house that happened to be haunted. While I respect the idea that anything is possible, my brain cannot comprehend a series of life decisions that would lead to that outcome. It is more likely that I need to rethink drinking caffeine before bed.

But, it is a neat theory that deserves further investigation. Paired with lucid dreaming, we are going into the possibility of interdimensional time travel, and that is something that needs to be discovered! ◆

KAREN ANDERSON
Medium & Animal Communicator

By Cheryl Knight

Award-winning animal communicator Karen Anderson can talk with animals — living or deceased. She is also a psychic medium with the ability to connect with departed humans.

As far back as Karen can remember she could speak to the animals. As a child, she often conversed with her pets, not realizing until years later that no one else could hear them talk.

A former business professional, business owner, and deputy sheriff, Karen is known for her hard work, driving motivation, and deep passion for all that she does. She honed her psychic and mediumship abilities over the years, significantly so during her time as a deputy sheriff in Colorado, where she realized that animals at crime scenes could provide accurate eyewitness accounts.

Today, Karen combines her law enforcement background with her psychic abilities to help solve cold cases in the hope of bringing closure to victims and their families. She offers online courses to help others learn animal communication and conducts personal coaching and private consultations.

Her bestselling animal communication books include *The Amazing Afterlife of Animals: Messages and Signs From Our Pets on the Other Side* and *Hear All Creatures! The Journey of an Animal Communicator*. She is also a coauthor of *Amazing Paranormal Encounters, Volume 2* and collaborator with Dr. Patricia Carrington, Ph.D. for her book *The Secret Inner Life of Pets*.

Karen resides in the Pacific Northwest where she lives on her farm with the animals she loves. We recently spoke with Karen and learned more about her abilities, her work as a deputy sheriff, and her current work communicating with animals.

* * * * *

Karen Anderson has communicated with more than 17,000 animals during the past 20 years. She connects with live or deceased pets by viewing a photo of the pet or tuning into a description of the pet.

Q: When did you first discover your abilities?

Karen: As far back as I can remember I have always understood the animals. I grew up watching shows like *Mister Ed* and *Dr. Doolittle* and Disney films like *Bambi* and *Jungle Book*. All the animals could talk in those shows, so it only made sense that my animals could talk too.

Q: How did you cope with the discovery of your abilities?

Karen: When I was very young, around five or six years old, we had a black and white collie, named Prince, whom I credit with teaching me how to communicate with animals. I learned how to understand all my pets back then. I would have silly conversations with all my childhood pets. I never realized that others could not understand them until a few years later. It was shocking when I realized that no one else could hear them talk.

My parents didn't know what to think of my abilities and were quick to discourage my "overactive imagination." I was told that animals can't talk. It was very discouraging and frustrating for me when no one believed me.

Q: You are both a psychic medium and an animal communicator. Is the psychic process the same when you connect with an animal versus a human?

Karen: The terms psychic and medium are often used to describe the same abilities, but they are actually quite different. As a psychic, I can read the energy of a person and discover relationship issues, health concerns, or career paths. As a medium, I am able to communicate with departed humans. As an animal communicator, I am able to communicate with both living and departed pets.

Generally speaking, the process is the same when I communicate with a departed human or an animal. The difference is the level of their vibrational energy. Departed humans have a high vibrational energy, and I have to raise my own level of awareness, or psychic abilities, to communicate with them. Animals tend to vibrate at a low energy level and are easier to connect with, but the process to open the lines of communication are the same.

Think of a ceiling fan spinning on a low speed versus a high speed. When I communicate with an animal, it is like the blades of the fan spinning on a low speed. When I communicate with a departed human, there is more energy being exchanged — just like when the ceiling fan rotates at a higher speed.

Q: What is your main goal in your work as a psychic medium and animal communicator?

Karen's main goal is to help bring clarity, harmony, and peace into her clients' lives by opening the lines of communication with them and their loved ones. (Photo by Dennis Merritt)

Karen: My main goal is to help my clients bring clarity, harmony, and peace into their lives by opening the lines of communication with them and their loved ones. Whether they are challenged with a behavioral issue or health concern with their pet or the overwhelming pain from grief, the messages I can deliver from their loved ones brings about healing, understanding, and in many cases a peace of mind that somehow escaped them before.

Q: Is your psychic connection stronger when connecting to human spirits or animal spirits? Or is it the same for both?

Karen: It varies by individual. Sometimes the connection is very strong with a pet, and other times it is not. The same is true for departed humans. If they had a strong personality while they were alive, they tend to come

→

During Karen's animal communication sessions, pet spirits tend to talk about the good memories they have, including the love, happiness, and fun they enjoyed with their humans. (Photo by Carla Heins)

through the same way. If they were more conservative or shy by nature, then they tend to come through accordingly. Each session is unique, and I have to be prepared for just about anything.

During a session many years ago, a client's departed mom came through. I saw her standing in the corner of my office with a frown on her face. I could not get her to say anything during the session. Finally, I asked my client if her mom was a conservative woman. She said her mom was a very conservative and religious woman in life.

Suddenly, the mom blurted out, "I don't believe in psychics or any of this." She had her arms crossed defiantly, scowling at me. I told her that was all fine and dandy, but it was a good thing I believed in all this psychic stuff or we wouldn't be having this conversation. She quickly shared her messages for her daughter and then disappeared into thin air.

Q: What is the primary recurring message you get from pet spirits? What about from human spirits?

Karen: Pet spirits tend to talk about the good memories they have, and they often speak in present tense. They don't seem to be interested in discussing the pain or discomfort they experienced when they died, and the focus seems to always be about the love, happiness, and fun they enjoyed with their humans.

When human spirits come through, I am often greeted by overwhelming love and a feeling of contentment and wellbeing. In some cases, the focus shifts toward mending broken relationships or misunderstandings. Human spirits seem to become more enlightened after they cross over to the Other Side. They can see how their decisions or lifestyle affected their loved ones and will often want to apologize for past wrongdoings. Animals don't seem to be concerned with things like this, as they live their life to the fullest while they are still here.

Q: Some of our readers may be surprised to learn that you were once a deputy sheriff in Colorado. How did you use your abilities in your role as a sheriff? And how did your colleagues react when they found out about your abilities?

Karen: I often worked alone as the only deputy on duty in a remote area of the Rocky Mountains. Sometimes the nearest backup car was 30 minutes or more away. I had to learn very quickly how to rely on my intuition and heightened awareness when responding to calls, as my life depended on it.

It was an awakening of sorts, as I learned to trust my instincts and my gut feelings. I began to watch the body language of suspects, their eye movements, and how they spoke. I paid attention to subtle clues, and I began to intuitively pick up on the energy of the suspects I dealt with. Once my intuition kicked in, it was just a matter of time before I started to receive information from animals on crime scenes. They could tell me where a suspect was hiding or which direction a lost boy vanished into the forest.

I began to realize that the animals could share accurate details that ultimately helped me solve crimes. They were much more reliable than the human eyewitnesses, as they did not have an agenda and they were open and honest about what happened.

In law enforcement, you need evidence and facts to solve a crime. I obtained information from many sources on each case, but there was no way I was about to tell anyone on the department that my confidential informants had four legs and a tail! It was shocking for me, so I'm sure it would not have gone over very well with my colleagues.

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Q: While you are no longer a sheriff, you now combine your law enforcement background with your psychic abilities to help solve cold cases. How often do you assist in cold cases, and how does the process work?

Karen: I work with various law enforcement agencies and family members to assist with missing person cases or cold cases. I am able to communicate with the departed human victims to obtain as much evidence and information as possible.

I have worked several cases where the resident pet was the only witness to the crime. I am able to connect with them and obtain details about what happened or who was involved. I turn that information over to law enforcement and let them take it from there.

> "I work with various law enforcement agencies and family members to assist with missing person cases or cold cases."

Q: What else would our readers be surprised to find out about you?

Karen: I would say that my professional career before I became a deputy and a psychic may surprise your readers. I worked for 18 years in the mortgage industry and once ran a business called The Corral Gal and scooped horse poop for a living.

Q: What do you like to do when you're not working?

Karen: I live on a 30-acre farm with horses, chickens, cats, and dogs, so there is always something that needs to be fixed. When the chores are done, my favorite pastime is playing ukulele and guitar.

Q: You have written several books chronicling your psychic work with animals. What is the most common feedback you have received from your readers?

Karen: The feedback from both books has been incredibly positive and rewarding. In *Hear All Creatures!*, I shared the story of a little white dove that delivered a powerful message to follow your heart and your passion in life. That story has helped many readers pursue their own natural talents and God-given gifts.

In response to *The Amazing Afterlife of Animals*, I've received hundreds of emails from readers all over the world who have deeply loved a pet and then experienced overwhelming grief when that pet died. They write about how their grief lifted after reading the book. They share how their guilt subsided and they now feel a sense of peace that had somehow escaped them before. That feedback makes my heart sing and makes me so happy to know that my books are helping pet parents work through their grief and that it is never too late to follow their passion in life.

Q: You teach an online course called "Learn the Language of the Pets You Love." Does one have to be psychic to take the course?

Karen: Absolutely not! It is designed with the beginner in mind or those who are new to the whole concept of communicating with animals. The simple steps are easy to follow and just about anyone who is open to the process can learn. Within minutes of signing up you will learn how to send a message to your pet.

I help my students throughout the course and share tips and personal experiences of communicating with animals. Teaching is my passion, and I love to see the reaction of those who receive a message from their pet for the first time. It is a game-changer, at least it was for me. I never viewed the world the same way after learning how to communicate with animals. It will open up a whole new world to you.

Q: What do you have planned for the future?

Karen: I'll be conducting private sessions for those who wish to communicate with their pets or departed human loved ones. I'm also creating a series of online courses for intermediate, advanced, and professional levels geared toward those who want to continue to strengthen their abilities and for those who wish to become a professional animal communicator.

I'm also narrating both of my books for audible.com, iTunes, iBook, and other audio retailers. There is another manuscript that I'm developing that will cover my work as a medium communicating with departed human spirits and possibly some work with podcasts in the radio environment. Last but not least, I am featured in an upcoming documentary called *All Around Us*, featuring a behind-the-scenes look into the life of a psychic.

* * * * *

To find out more about Karen Anderson's work, sessions, and upcoming events, visit http://animalcommunicating.com/. For her online courses, visit https://animalcommunicationplanet.com/. Find Karen on social media at https://www.facebook.com/KarenAndersonAnimalCommunicator and https://twitter.com/TalksToPets. ◆

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PARANORMAL INQUEST'S DR. BRYAN FARHA

By Cheryl Knight

As a paranormal skeptic, Dr. Bryan Farha's primary mission is public education about human behavior and deceptive claims. He began Paranormal Inquest, a worldwide electronic consulting and coaching tool, to help people see — through critical thinking, educational discovery, and experimentation — that unexplained events and phenomena often have logical explanations.

A college professor in behavioral studies for nearly 30 years, Dr. Farha has also taught about paranormal skepticism during that time. He holds a bachelor's degree in mortuary science and a master's and doctoral degree in counseling psychology. Various media outlets, including CNN, TIME.com, The National Geographic Channel, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Huffington Post*, and A&E, have recognized his work over the years.

Dr. Farha recently spoke with *Paranormal Underground* magazine about his mission and work in the paranormal field.

* * * * *

Q: What led you to start Paranormal Inquest?

Dr. Farha: There are so many people who misperceive events as paranormal. For example, just because there is an unexplained object in the night sky doesn't mean it's of supernatural origin. It does make it a UFO (since it's unidentified), but not necessarily paranormal.

There are also those who wonder if they possess paranormal powers. I want them to have a vehicle to be in a better position to shed light on it. It's often difficult for someone to make that determination, because they so much want to believe they possess powers. Paranormalinquest.net will help shed light on the likely earthly and logical reasons for the perception of paranormality.

Although I won't give away services, I'm not in it to get rich. In fact, I'm not in need of money. I just want people to understand how to logically examine allegedly anomalistic phenomena. This Website is not for staunch believers — it's for those wondering if they possess paranormal abilities.

Professor Dr. Bryan Farha seeks to find logical explanations for perceived paranormality.

Q: How do you go about investigating paranormal claims?

Dr. Farha: This depends on the claim. Some claims are not testable (such as apparitions, existence of God, etc.), so I stay away from them.

Years ago, I recall a lady who said she could accurately predict the outcome of football games in advance, using national point spreads. So I told her to email me her predictions before all the games started and that I would catalog them to determine how well she did. After a couple of weeks, she was extremely close to 50% — exactly what would be predicted by chance (since the purpose of point spreads is to make each game evenly matched statistically).

I remember her saying that the format was unfair because in real life she wouldn't have to pick all the games. She said she didn't feel "strong" about some of them. So I told her we would start over and to only pick games she felt "strong" about. Again, the results were near 50%.

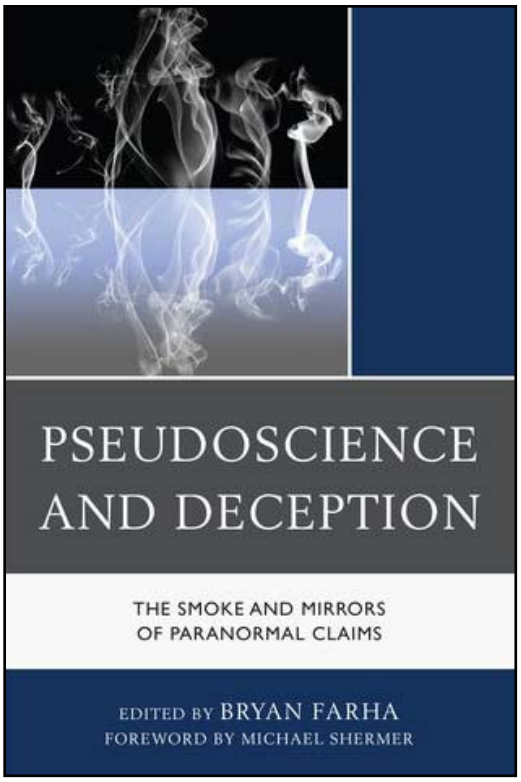
Q: In your investigations and consultations, what have you found to be the most common natural

explanations that are to blame for reported paranormal activity?

Dr. Farha: In the example above, the likely explanation is simple "reinforcement." Before I cataloged her predictions, I'm sure she felt a rush when she got a prediction correct. Many of us would. When she started getting many correct, she misperceived alleged psychic ability for reinforcement. We remember the hits and forget the misses. This is reinforcement. It's what keeps people coming back for more gambling in the Vegas casinos.

Other examples: I think we believe in ghosts, haunted houses, and reincarnation because they are comforting. Why would they be comforting notions? Because they all imply an afterlife. It's comforting to believe consciousness survives death.

Now for a general answer: It's just more fun to believe in extraordinary claims. But basing beliefs on desires, hopes, and dreams is often not realistic. I wish someone could levitate without props or trickery. Also, the Forer Effect/Personal Validation is common (astrology and personality readings) because the explanations are so general they could apply to anyone.



Q: What have you found to be the most common myths about the paranormal?

Dr. Farha: The question asked really says it all. When we hear about this subject, it's presented as though it exists. This is why I tend to say it a bit more accurately by referring to it as an "alleged" paranormal claim.

Q: What "real" paranormal activity have you come across during your investigations?

Dr. Farha: None. There have either been logical explanations for them all or there has not been enough evidence to conclude "paranormal" activity. The latter is often held onto by believers because they desperately want it to be true.

Q: Have you ever experienced paranormal phenomena that you can't explain?

Dr. Farha: No, but I've experienced events I couldn't explain — but that doesn't make them paranormal. I heard a noise last night outside my house I can't explain. Should I jump to the conclusion it was a would-be intruder? A ghost? If I don't have a concrete answer, it goes into the category of "unexplained" (but not paranormal).

Q: Why do you believe the "skeptical approach" is the best method to use when investigating reported paranormal phenomena?

Dr. Farha: The skeptical approach is the scientific approach — which gives us the best means possible to draw accurate conclusions. There's nothing magical about the skeptical approach. But let's get it right. To be uncomfortable with the scientific/skeptical approach is to believe based on hopes, wants, dreams, and desires (fun, but not practical).

Q: Tell us about your book *Pseudoscience and Deception: The Smoke and Mirrors of Paranormal Claims.*

Dr. Farha: I will simply answer this with the words I used in the book itself: Pseudoscience and Deception is a compilation of some of the most eye-opening skeptical articles pertaining to extraordinary claims and pseudoscience. The articles explore paranormal, extraordinary, or fringe-science claims and reveal logical explanations or outline the deceptive tactics involved in convincing the vulnerable.

Topics include claims of astrology, psychic ability, alternative medicine, after-death communication, psychotherapy, and pseudoscience. The contributors to this book are among the most accomplished critical thinkers, scientists, and educators in the world and tackle their respective topics from a rational, logical, and skeptical perspective.

Most students are seldom excited to study "critical thinking" — with the exception of allegedly paranormal phenomena as the subject matter. Educators must seize this golden opportunity to witness and experience students' genuine engagement in studying critical thinking.

* * * * *

To find out more about Dr. Bryan Farha, visit https://www.paranormalinquest.net/. ◆

THE HORROR MOVIES WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IN 2018

BY CATHERINE PHELAN, VIA THE-LINE-UP.COM

With 2017's record-breaking takes for horror movies like *IT* and *Get Out*, it seems movie studios are reevaluating horror. That's killer news for horror fans like us.

We're getting a slew of horror movies in 2018. The first few months of the year are especially jam-packed with horror flicks promising to bring the terror.

'Winchester': February 2

The Winchester Mystery House is one of the strangest houses out there. Its bizarre and ghostly history was practically begging for a movie — and it's finally being indulged. This movie will star Helen Mirren as Sarah Winchester, the widow who built the house in an effort to appease the restless spirits she was certain were haunting her.

'The Ritual': February 9

Netflix got into the horror game last year with two Stephen King adaptations (*1922* and *Gerald's Game*) and a McG creation. This year, they're continuing the trend with *The Ritual*, directed by David Bruckner and based on a novel by Adam Nevill. Bloody Disgusting confirms it's set to arrive on Netflix in February. Crowds at the Toronto Film Festival went wild for the movie, and Netflix paid big for the feature. Hopefully, that's a sign of the terror contained in *The Ritual*.

'Annihilation': February 23

Annihilation features an all-star cast (Natalie Portman, Oscar Isaac, Gina Rodriguez, Tessa Thompson, and more) and a built-in audience of the many, many people who loved Jeff VanderMeer's *Southern Reach Trilogy*, the source material. This utterly creepy, post-apocalyptic/monster/sci-fi horror flick looks like it'll be just as terrifying as the novels.

'The Lodgers': February 23

If you like your horror movies a bit more Gothic, creepy, and stylized, *The Lodgers* is for you. Twins Rachel and Edward have shut themselves up in their parents' Irish estate after some sort of terrifying mass suicide or murder. When Rachel tries to leave, Edward — and the house — are not exactly willing to let her go.

'The Strangers: Prey at Night': March 9

2008's *The Strangers* was an unexpected smash hit. So, naturally, we're getting a sequel. The screenplay was once again written by Bryan Bertino. This story follows a family who is stranded in a trailer park, then stalked and tortured by three masked strangers. *The Strangers: Prey at Night* stars Christina Hendricks (*Mad Men*) and Martin Henderson (*The Ring*). The trailer strikes the perfect balance of creepy and darkly humorous.

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New from *Paranormal Underground* columnist

Karen Frazier

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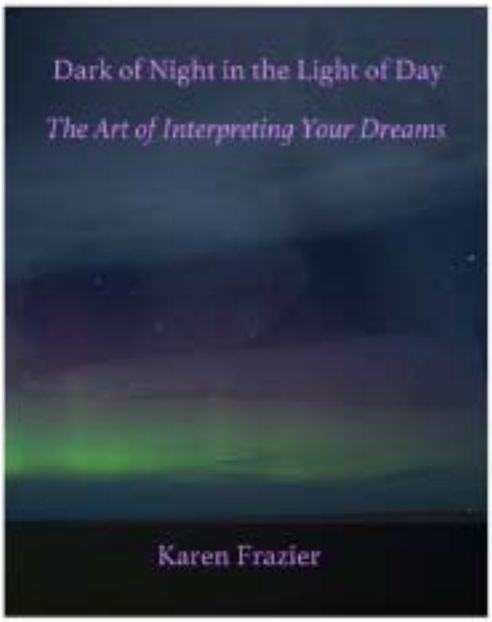

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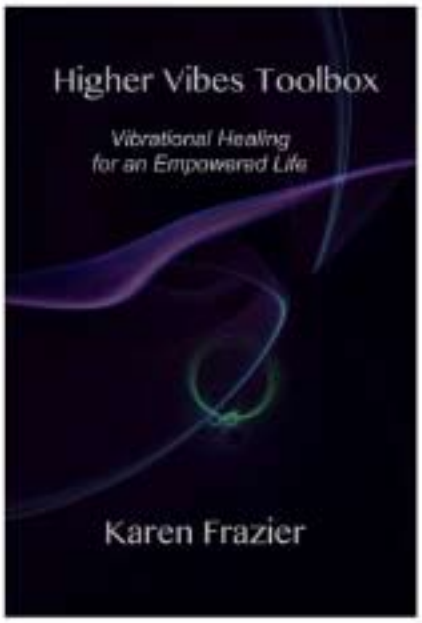
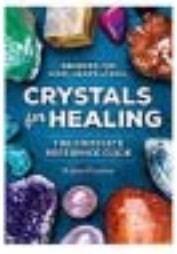
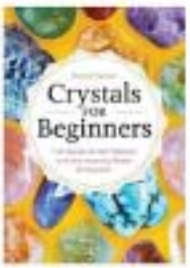


Also by Karen





AuthorKarenFrazier.com

'Unsane': March 23

Alright, we don't know much about this one, but we're still excited about it. *Unsane*, Steven Soderbergh's next feature, will star Claire Foy (*The Crown*) and is said to be a psychological horror film. Supposedly, the film was shot only on an iPhone.

'A Quiet Place': April 6

If *Get Out* proved anything, it's that a comic actor is more than capable of creating an extremely terrifying horror movie. That's only one of the reasons we're excited for *A Quiet Place*, co-written and directed by *The Office's* John Krasinski.

The film, which follows a family that must remain silent for fear of ... something coming to get them, also stars Krasinski's real-life wife, Emily Blunt, and *Wonderstruck's* Millicent Simmonds.

'God Particle': April 20

God Particle, the third installment in the Cloverfield (quasi) series, may not even be called *God Particle* anymore. It's also had its release date pushed back four times. Despite all of this, we're still, somehow, excited for the film — which may be called *Overlord* now.

10 Cloverfield Place was good and terrifying enough that we'll keep waiting patiently for the next installment, especially when it will star Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Chris O'Dowd, and David Oyelowo.

(Editor's Note: This movie was just released under the title "The Cloverfield Paradox.")

'Truth or Dare': April 27

At first glance, *Truth or Dare* seems like just another teen horror flick. But something about the trailer has us thinking that there's a bit more to this game than usual. *Final Destination* meets *It Follows*, *Truth or Dare* stars Lucy Hale and Tyler Posey as friends who get sucked into a game of truth or dare that can and will end their lives.

'Slender Man': May 18

The Internet phenomenon comes to life in *Slender Man*. When four girls at a Massachusetts boarding school try to disprove the Slender Man's existence, they end up summoning the creature instead. Starring Joey King (*Wish Upon*) and Jaz Sinclair (*Paper Towns*), the film looks like it will capture much of the evocative creepiness that made Slender Man so terrifying to so many.

'The Nun': July 13

The Conjuring universe continues to spiral outward. *The Nun*, expected in the later half of 2018, will tell the story of the chilling character first seen in *The Conjuring 2*.

And bonus news, horror fans: It's been reported that the Crooked Man, another terrifying character from *The Conjuring 2*, will also receive the spinoff treatment. No word yet as to when this second flick will be released, though it appears to be in the works. After the success of last year's *Annabelle: Creation*, we're cautiously excited for these next films.

'The Meg': August 10

We know three things about *The Meg*: It's about an extinct breed of shark, it stars Jason Statham, and it's based on the 1997 novel *Meg: A Novel of Deep Terror*. Those few facts are enough to get us on board. *The Meg* is sure to satisfy any shark-movie lover.

'The Little Stranger': August 31

Sarah Waters's novels have proven fertile ground for adaptation in the past, so we're excited to see what can be done with one of her more horror-centric novels, like *The Little Stranger*.

The Little Stranger follows a doctor who has been hired to treat a genteel family who cannot afford to remain in their home any longer — both due to lack of funds and some eerie ghosts lurking around every corner.

'Halloween': October 19

Michael Myers and Laurie Strode are back. This sequel will ignore all movies after the first, functioning as a direct sequel to 1978's *Halloween*. Jamie Lee Curtis and Nick Castle will both reprise their roles from the original film, and Judy Greer will play Laurie's daughter, Karen Strode. Details are limited, but we're excited to get back to the basics.

Unconfirmed 2018 Releases:

- *Deep Blue Sea 2*
- *Suspiria*
- *The Return of the Killer Klowns from Outer Space*
- *Nosferatu* ◆

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The Milieu and Correlation Between Doppelgängers, Twins, and Clones

By Rainbow Radaelli, TruthSeekerHighway.com

Sometimes reality and the truth of our perceptions collide, and what we are left with is fragments, a semblance of both, immersed into one another. A dip in a pool can send off shockwaves, alerting anything close by that we are near, yet our very movement changes the still waters of their existence. So it is with this thought of the constant converge and diverge of life that I often wonder the "what if" between doppelgängers, twins, and clones.

Have you ever wondered how they are all different from each other, perhaps not by much but enough to establish the definitive and unique peculiarities between them? Still, these peculiarities are the comparable qualities that connect them to each other. The question is, how are they defined by society?

The dubious shadows that are created within the mind sometimes spill out into the transparent canvas of life, bringing its foreboding sentiments directly into our daily lives. Do dreams that wander in calling themselves memories play a role in discovering the meaning of any said disclosure, or are they remnants of jumbled recollections of daily life? Lurking in the midst of any imagination is the conspiracy yarn that makes seeing double a scary thing.

Funny how we look to Hollywood to bring us our fears, desires, and hidden flights of the imagination directly into our living rooms. What is intended as entertainment for the masses can sometimes include hints or clues into a reality that is beyond comprehension. Society can become its own perverted ambassador, because we believe what is told to us within the numerous scripts of decadence and revulsion.

Maybe, just maybe this is where the truth lies, hidden in a labyrinth of fictitious truths called the unmitigated and

disreputable Pandora's Box. Is this where doppelgängers, twins, and clones thrive? Or is this an attempt at showing elements of transgressions revealed ... but by whom? Sometimes Pandora's Box can look a lot like the Rabbit Hole. They both can become an overlooked paradox, because they both offer similar temptations.

Can the mirror image of ourselves recognize the descriptive familiarity within the words, doppelgängers, twins, and clones? I know my own reflection looking back at me is, for all intents and purposes, me. Yet sometimes if I look too close at my own reflection, she becomes a blur.

Doppelgänger

Years ago, I heard the word *doppelgänger*, and I remember thinking it was just another weird word for a twin. There have been numerous movies done on this frightening, almost beguiling word. Its definition means an apparition or double of a living person. Do doppelgängers know they are doppelgängers? Or do they exist like us, thinking they are the original design for their soul? Are they us, in spirit form, simply our higher selves only better, wiser, and indomitable?

Alas, the question must be asked: Are they immoral, seeking to take our identity into theirs, wiping out our very existence, making us an extension into nothingness? If there are two, usually one of the pair is more dominant then the other. Which would you be?

Interestingly enough, reality or truth acquired in science can hide itself within the confines of science fiction, because there is room to maneuver and experiment within each person's reactions, emotions, and phobias. A trickle of the truth can be easier to swallow then a deluge of reality. For instance, the thought of a hidden, almost monster-like double of ourselves can create quite the stir inside us.

If we are good, does this mean our doppelgänger must be bad? Some people fear their doppelgänger is their comeuppance or deserved retribution for a mendacious and unscrupulous life.

On the back burner of a petulant mind, exhausted by fear, a question lingers, making itself home like an unwelcome guest. If the existence of a person could cease to exist, who would know the better? Included in this quandary is the ruminating and foreboding feeling that family and friends wouldn't suspect or know that the switch had been made. In fact, here it is, in science fiction form, a created movie plot; another "look alike" portrays a targeted person and their characteristics to perfection. The bloodcurdling realization for the victim would be watching themselves being replaced, yet isolated and hopelessly doomed from any assistance. Life goes on ... without them.

The bottom line here is, if society knew something could take its place without any hesitation, would that not be a terror beyond words?

The unsettling word, doppelgänger's origin is German and hints of various portents of doom meant for any individual who sees themselves either at a distance or perhaps in obscure circumstances. Folklore says it can be a sign of illness or imminent death.

An interesting example of a doppelgänger in the 19th Century is Emilie Sagee, who lived in France. She was a school teacher at an exclusive girl's school, called Pensionat von Neuwelcke. There was supposedly 13 students who saw her doppelgänger appear right beside her as she was writing on a blackboard. It copied her every move but held no chalk. Emilie Sagee stated herself that she never saw her doppelgänger, but whenever it did appear, she felt drained of energy, and even her physical color went pale, a sign that it was near.

I must ask then, in this case, was her doppelgänger dangerous? Could it have been a distant twin or a part of her soul that couldn't be contained?

→

Twin

A twin could be considered a doppelgänger of its sibling because in many instances people use the two words to describe one or the other. The obvious difference between the two phrases is that twins are the flesh and blood consequence of child bearing. Whereas doppelgängers seem to come from the ethereal world of the unknown.

Twin telepathy calls upon a different understanding regarding their unique and shared relationships because of their intertwined supernatural abilities that have intrigued even the upper echelon of various medical fields.

It has to be mentioned that one of the darker medical affiliations with twins is Josef Mengele. In Auschwitz, his main study was twins, even though he carried out a variety of projects with other groups. Mengele believed identical twins, which shared the same ovum, could posses the same psychological characteristics and habits. Let's just say, ethics went out the window, because he had hundreds of twins at his whim and disposal.

An inmate doctor at Auschwitz stated that Mengele seemed to be something like "the double man" who demonstrated human feelings yet commanded obedience and order. Perhaps, he was dealing with his own interpersonal doppelgänger or envied the assumed abilities the twins seemed to share with each other. Never the less, death's door was always close by for many of the twins. Mengele had little patience when it came to his bizarre experiments, and unfortunately for those around him, he showed very little humility and compassion.

This leads me to wonder what the difference would be between Mengele and a clone. Their characteristics seem to be similar because both would be prone to serving a higher purpose without thinking about the consequences of the present.

Clone

More than 70 movies have been made around the concept of a clone — the various scripts and plots created to intrigue and scare the masses. But I also think they were all vehicles to get people used to the clone idea.

Stem cells are another way to create a mainstream push so that the idea of a clone becomes not only accepted but slowly integrates itself into daily life without anyone noticing. The idea of cloning seems science fiction to a certain degree, but there are projects in the dark arenas that have been playing around with this very idea for years. The end results are gray areas of a denied truth.

Let us glide down another tunnel within the Rabbit Hole that seems less traveled. Let's talk about mind control for a minute. Mind control has become one of the leading radio show topics since super soldiers and whistle blowers have come forth claiming they are victims of various mind-control methods. What would it take to make mind control a thing of the past? Would it be aliens coming down from hidden and cloaked spaceships or bursting forth from underground in gravity-defying vehicles with ray guns directed at us surface dwellers. Well, that scenario, or I should say type of movie, has been done numerous times, so perhaps because the general public are now aware of these illicit schemes, maybe those in the know had to change their tune and figure out another way to catch us off guard.

Perhaps this is where clones come in. They do as their told, they don't complain, and they get the job done. Mind control can be a bit messy, because breaking another person's will can be time consuming and the end results aren't always foreseeable.

How many clones can be made of one so-called person? Your guess is as good as mine, but if this can be done, I am sure they can make a spare and possibly a third in reserve. So the obvious questions are, where does this place us as human beings, and oddly enough if clones exist, where do they keep the clones in reserve?

Having a possible doppelgänger is scary enough, but if there was another clone of me, how would that work? Am I the blueprint for the clone? Or would it be called an avatar? Would we think alike, have the same habits and mannerisms, yet be different enough to exist in the same reality? I know ... so many questions, but clones seem to be a part of the *Star Wars* or *Blade Runner* genre. Maybe this is where the idea of clones was first placed into society's subconscious so that the very idea wouldn't cause panic.

Today, clones are considered avant-garde, a part of today's idealism for progress and future proactive solutions to war and aggression, the industrial complex, space, and whatever else you can think of.

So which of the three terms makes the most sense in regards to future endeavors in scientific, sociopolitical, or economic success schemes? The ripples of each word leaves a slightly different mark on the psyche for most people. With technology changing faster then we can keep up, it seems to me that the best way for anyone to meet their doppelgänger, imaginary twin, or sci-fi clone is to forget their humanity and immerse themselves into the very gadgets that will eventually take over their lives.

> **The doppelgänger, twin, or clone of our making is already beyond our doorstep and in our homes.**

A scary movie can be a prelude into our darkest fears, but then we can always walk away from a theater or video store knowing reality as we know it, awaits us, unchanged.

Obviously, for most people the very reality in which they live is defined by comfort, accessibility, and consistent and unchanged routines and schedules. I have to ask, would this not be the perfect strategy in creating a society that depends on their alter egos and detailed profiles for access to family and community interaction without ever having to leave the house?

The doppelgängers, twins, and clones of society can be easily accessed at the click of any keyboard or button. Years from now, we may be living in a scary and shadowy world without ever having to leave our own homes. Perhaps we are the creators of our own Pandora's Box, and the Rabbit Hole we travel down is a computer screen that ties us into its multi-layered sites and videos promoting vices and unequaled desires for conquest with a self-made character that has superhuman strength and mind-altering abilities.

We can be checked up on or watched, because everything that is related to any community-oriented groups or chat rooms requires us all to create a password and sign in to participate in the matrix. What if we gave away, willingly, our individuality for a new-world conformity without ever knowing the better. The doppelgänger, twin, or clone of our making is already beyond our doorstep and in our homes, comfortably waiting for a click of a button.

The surprise attack has already begun, and all it took was easy access into multiple networks that not only encourages alter egos but insists upon them to gain entry. Ultimately, we have become the lead players in our own scary movie ... your doppelgängers, twins, and clones welcome you. ◆

Winter Balefire
Love Letters Destroyed
Love Letters Destroyed is Winter Balefire's first book of poetry now available at Amazon, Lulu, Barnes & Noble and all fine retailers that sell great books. Pick it up in eBook and signed paperback editions today!
Love Letters Destroyed is a collection of poetry representing all that is written and left unsaid. Sleepless nights, dark thoughts, and broken bits of sanity fill these pages. Each piece tells a story and each story will reveal every part of your psyche you've hidden from. Here you will find everything you've ever felt but have never said aloud.

MCRAVEN:
The Most Haunted House in Mississippi

By Kelly McClure, Via The-Line-Up.com

You'd be hard pressed to find a Mississippi local who would argue against the fact that McRaven is the most haunted house in the state. Located in Vicksburg, Mississippi, (formerly called Walnut Hills) the first section of the house was built by a highwayman named Andrew Glass in 1797.

If you're unfamiliar with the term "highwayman," it's basically a nicer way of saying "robber." Glass made his living forcefully taking the money of unlucky travelers, and McRaven was his hideout. The two-room house was equipped with a removable ladder leading from the ground floor to the upper level, where Glass slept, which would be pulled up at bedtime to guard against possible retaliation for his thievery.

Over the years, ownership of the house changed many times. Each new proprietor added something to the original structure, which ultimately allowed for generations of pent up sadness, sickness, death, and grief to build up within the walls and around the property.

The second section of McRaven was built in 1836 by Sheriff Stephen Howard, whose wife, Mary Elizabeth, died in the home during childbirth. Her trapped spirit is, to this day, one of two ghosts that makes itself known most frequently. People have attributed lights mysteriously going off and on throughout the house to Mary's presence. For many years, her wedding shawl remained in the home and guests would report that it felt hot to the touch.

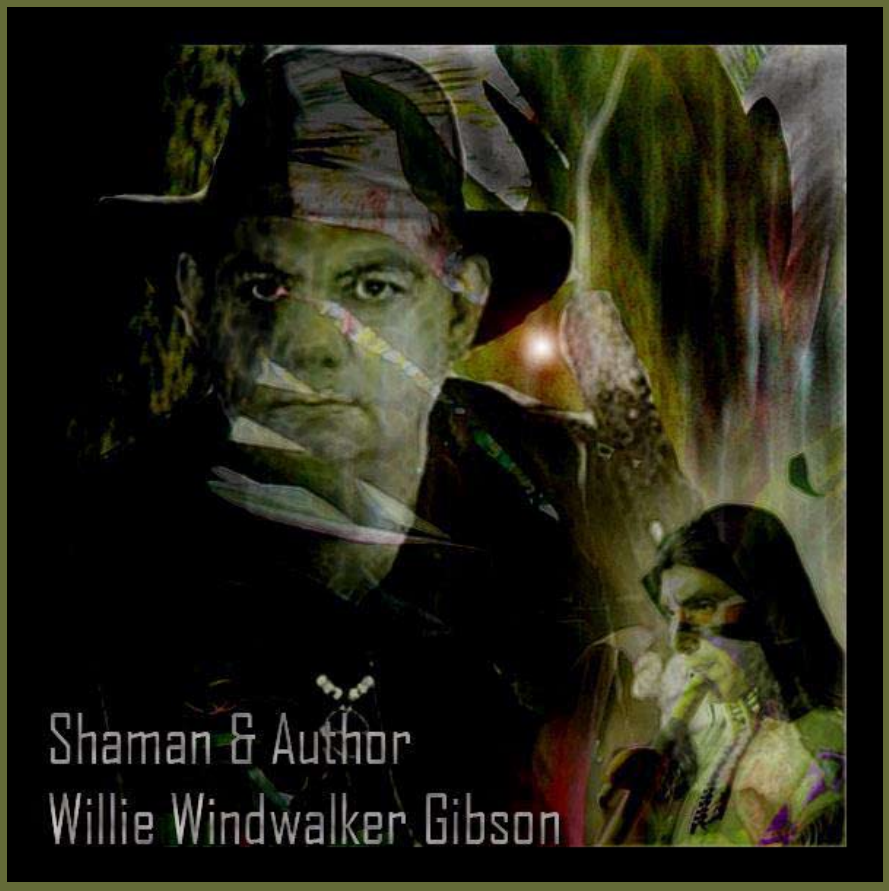
In 1849, a brick manufacturer and sawmill owner named John H. Bobb built the third addition to the house. Bobb is said to have been shot and killed there. His trapped spirit is another one known to stick close to the house, as though he's keeping an eye on things.

At least five occupants have died inside the McRaven house, according to reports. Former property owner John Bobb was murdered on the property. (Photo by Zamburak via Wikimedia Commons)

In 1961, the home was opened to the public for tours, which still run and are a popular tourist attraction in the area. For $50 you can even participate in an actual ghost hunt conducted in, and around, the property.

Do you think you're brave enough to explore McRaven?

To learn more about the history of McRaven and for more information about paranormal tours and ghost hunts at the property, visit https://www.mcraventourhome.com/. ◆



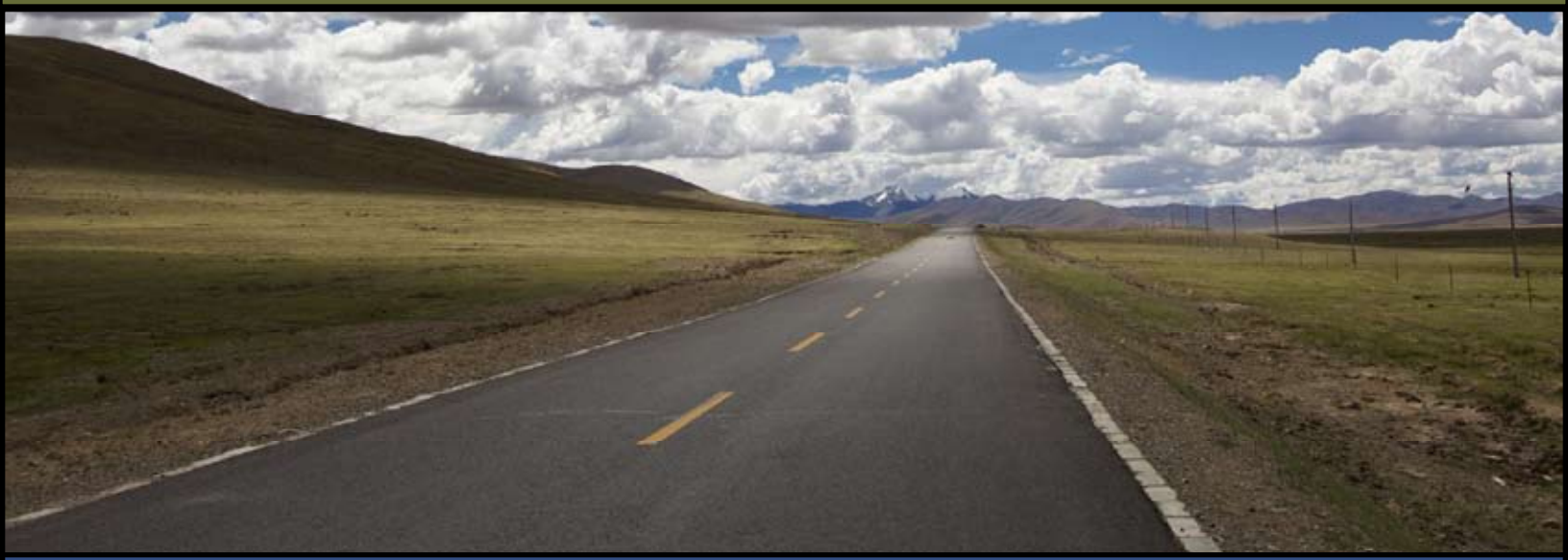
Willie Windwalker Gibson

offers readings via email or by phone.

Email For More Information:

crystalchief55@aol.com

https://www.facebook.com/willie.gibson.3517?fref=ts



Are You a TRUTHSEEKER?

http://truthseekerhighway.com/

http://truthseekerforum.com/

COPS VS. ALIENS

By Rick E. Hale, TheGeeksGuide.weebly.com

Law enforcement officials are pretty well known for being a skeptical lot. On a day-to-day basis, they must deal with hard core criminals who do everything they can to keep themselves out of trouble, even lying with a straight face. So being skeptical is a job requirement.

Police officers, when on patrol, are highly trained, highly skilled observers. A big part of their job is observing people's actions, as well as reactions. They are used to dealing with normal situations. Dealing with the abnormal is not something they like. However, every so often the police are the ones reluctantly thrust into abnormal situations. And in January 2000, several police officers across several counties in Southern Illinois found themselves in one such abnormal situation.

The Case of Melvern Noll

In the early morning hours of January 5, Melvern Noll, the owner of a local mini golf course, worked as a part-time truck driver to pay the bills during the winter months. While making deliveries, he decided to stop at his business to check on things. When he got out of his truck, his attention was drawn to an unusually bright light in the Northern sky. Thinking it was nothing but a star, Noll opened the door and walked into his business.

After a few minutes of checking on the mini golf course, Noll walked outside and noticed something out of the ordinary. The light that he assumed was a star seemed closer, much brighter, and doing something that stars don't typically do, moving slowly through the sky.

As he stood transfixed on the moving object, he began to realize that the light was part of a much larger object. Noll was shocked when he realized that what he was looking at was unlike anything he had ever seen.

The craft, rectangular in shape, moved silently across the sky. Noll described it as having windows that ran along the side and was as tall as a two-story house. When the craft disappeared over the horizon, Noll, shaken by what he had witnessed, jumped in his truck and did what any normal person would do — drove to the nearest police department.

Police Investigation Into UFO Claims

At 4:15 a.m., officer Ed Barton received a call from his dispatcher. He was told by the dispatcher that they had received several calls from people reporting a strange light over Horner Park at the north end of town. Understandably, Barton was dubious about the call and joked with his dispatcher about crackpots seeing little green men. But looking into such things was part of the job, and despite his own beliefs he quickly made his way to the scene.

As Barton approached Horner Park, he could see two brilliant, white lights moving slowly through the sky. Barton found himself driving much faster now, trying to keep up with the lights. His first thought was that this had to be somebody playing some kind of prank. That was, until the object came to a stop.

When Barton got close enough to see the object sitting stationary in the sky, he could tell this was no prank. He described the object as being a cigar-shaped craft

floating soundlessly in the sky. As his eyes adjusted to the bright lights, he could tell that it was only the light that was cigar-shaped and attached to a much larger triangular object. Barton watched as the craft began to move away and slowly picked up speed.

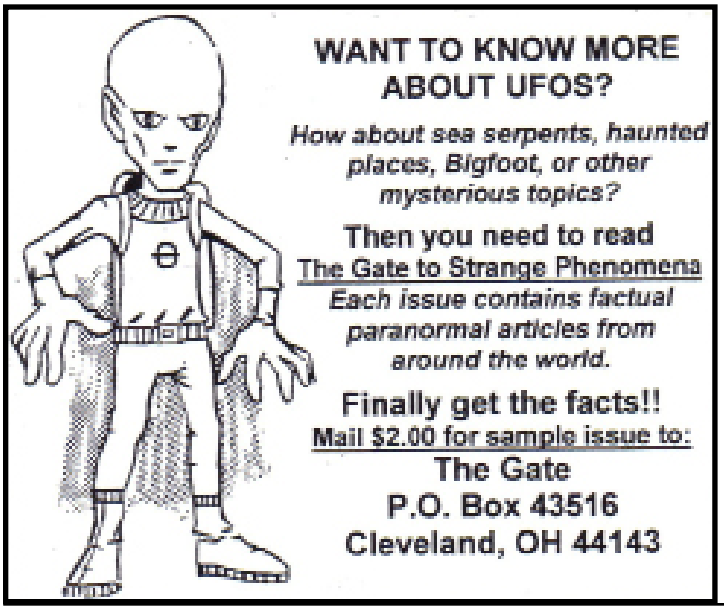
When he regained his composure, Barton returned to his car and contacted his dispatch. When he learned that police officers from nearby Lebanon, Milstadt, and Shiloh were involved in a chase with the extraordinary craft, Barton jumped into his squad car and joined the pursuit.

Chasing Down a UFO

As the officers chased the object, they kept in contact with each other and their respective dispatchers. Such comments as "huge" and "V-shaped craft" filled the police scanners. One officer stated that the craft was a mere 500 feet in the sky and he could make it out in greater detail looking through binoculars. The officers finally broke off the chase as the craft moved off to the West, crossing the state line into Missouri and vanishing.

To this day, the officers involved in the chase with the otherworldly craft are still unsure about what they chased that night. Their rational minds tell them that whatever they saw was some kind of secret military aircraft. But when nearby Scott Air Force base was contacted, it denied having anything in the air that night. In fact, nothing showed up on their radar that night.

The great Southern Illinois UFO chase has gone down on record as being one of the best-documented UFO cases of all time as reported primarily by highly trained, highly skilled observers, even if they don't quite know what they chased that night. ◆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The Mythical Grim Reaper

By John Young, HubPages.com/@jy3502

According to William Bramley's book *Gods of Eden*, a group of fearful-looking men, if they were men, suddenly appeared in Brandenburg, Germany, sometime in the 14th century. The locals described them as best as they could, considering the era. They reported these "men" were carrying what looked to be long scythes and were attempting to cut a field of oats.

But, the oats remained standing, and the combined sound of their scythes could be heard from far off. Shortly thereafter, there was a severe outbreak of the Black Plague.

Similar sightings were also reported in other European communities with the same results. They were described as "strange men in black, demons, and other terrifying figures, carrying brooms, scythes, or swords." No satisfactory explanation was ever forthcoming. Some believe these reports were the beginnings of our modern Grim Reaper image.

The Origins of the Grim Reaper

Different cultures have their own version of where this mythological figure originated. But, the most widely accepted version is the skeletal figure in a black robe wielding a scythe and carrying an hour glass. Many researchers claim the basis for such a character actually originated in ancient times with the Greeks and Romans. Greeks knew him as Cronos, meaning "time," the father of Zeus. The Romans called him Saturn.

The modern-day Grim Reaper image can be traced directly to the Middle Ages and Black Plague. This skeletal figure cloaked in black, flowing robes, became the personification of death. The scythe was adopted as the weapon that would mow down his victims as if they were grain in a field. And so, many pieces of art of the times depicted death in this fashion. The figure still appears in many works today.

The Black Death spread to Europe between 1347 and 1350 and killed about one third of the population. Most history books teach it was overcrowding in rat infested cities that caused the epidemic. Other sources point to extraterrestrial activity as the cause, such as that described in Bramley's book. These sources claim not all outbreaks of the Black Death, also known as the Bubonic Plague, involved rats or were even situated in urban areas. Sometimes it struck isolated, rural areas where no one had any contact with the disease.

There were also tales of foul-smelling mists and bright lights in the skies immediately preceding the outbreaks. Not only did these mists appear to issue forth from the strange lights, but they killed people, trees, and other living things. Whether or not any of these accounts are true is anyone's guess. There does seem to be serious lack of convincing evidence.

There were also tales of foul-smelling mists and bright lights in the skies immediately preceding the outbreaks.

The Stories of Thanatos and Cronos

Actually, the Greeks had two different views on the Grim Reaper. One tells of the mythical god Thanatos whose twin brother was Hypnos, the god of sleep. Thanatos accompanied souls to Hades, the Greek underworld. He would then pass them on to the ferryman at the river Styx, which separated the world of the living from the world of the dead.

The other relates the story of Cronos, the son of Greek gods Uranus and Gaia. According to the legend, Cronos was forced back into his mother's womb by his father, Uranus, along with his other siblings. He feared losing his position to his children.

But Gaia had given her son a sickle to escape from her womb. Cronos used the sickle to castrate his father. Many believe this sickle is what later prompted the specter's scythe.

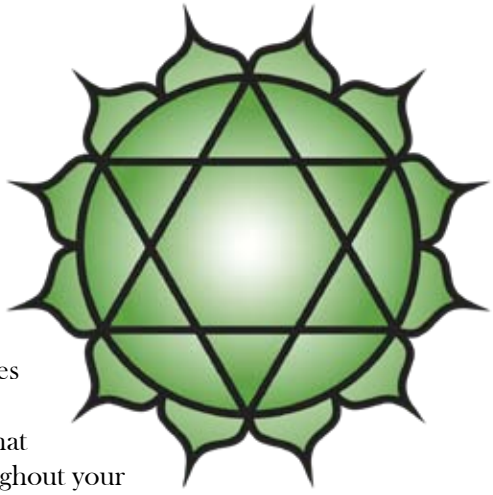
Other Versions of the Grim Reaper

There are similar accounts in other cultures. Japanese folklore depicts the Reaper as ruler of the underworld. Slavic people portray the Reaper as a woman dressed in white. She carries a small, green immortal sprout. Those who come in contact with it, fall into a never-ending sleep.

Conversely, no matter how one envisions the Grim Reaper, the mythical being has come to be an inspiration for storytellers, cartoonists, and the like. Therefore, the image doesn't inspire the same level of fear or superstitions it once did. However, it still symbolizes death, as in the case of the Grim Reaper Society, which uses it to highlight the number of tobacco-related deaths.

Others use the title indiscriminately; for instance, giving the name to a popular cocktail, a crossword puzzle, and even a small breaching tool utilized mostly by the military. ◆

Your Heart Chakra



By Karen Frazier, AuthorKarenFrazier.com

Your heart chakra is the connection between your upper chakras of mind and spirit (throat, third eye, crown) and your lower chakras of body and emotion (root, sacral, solar plexus).

It is in the heart that we confront issues of forgiveness of self and others, unconditional love, compassion, and kindness. When we experience grief, it originates in our heart chakra, and through the power of unconditional love, we can turn it into forgiveness, compassion, and empowerment.

In our heart chakra, our physical meets our spiritual, and it all mixes into this beautiful whole we call our embodied selves.

It is into our heart chakras we can venture when we slip out of balance.

Try this. Close your eyes. Place your hands over your heart chakra, and breathe deeply into it. Think of someone or something that makes you feel deep love.

Now, visualize that love spreading throughout your entire body, traveling with your heartbeat through your veins into your extremities and organs, traveling through your lungs and breathing out into the Universe.

Breathe in the unconditional love the Universe has for you, and breathe out all the love you feel so it fills the world around you with its vibration. Do this when you are hurt, angry, worried, scared, sad, grieving, judgmental, stressed, unfocused, or experiencing any other negative emotion.

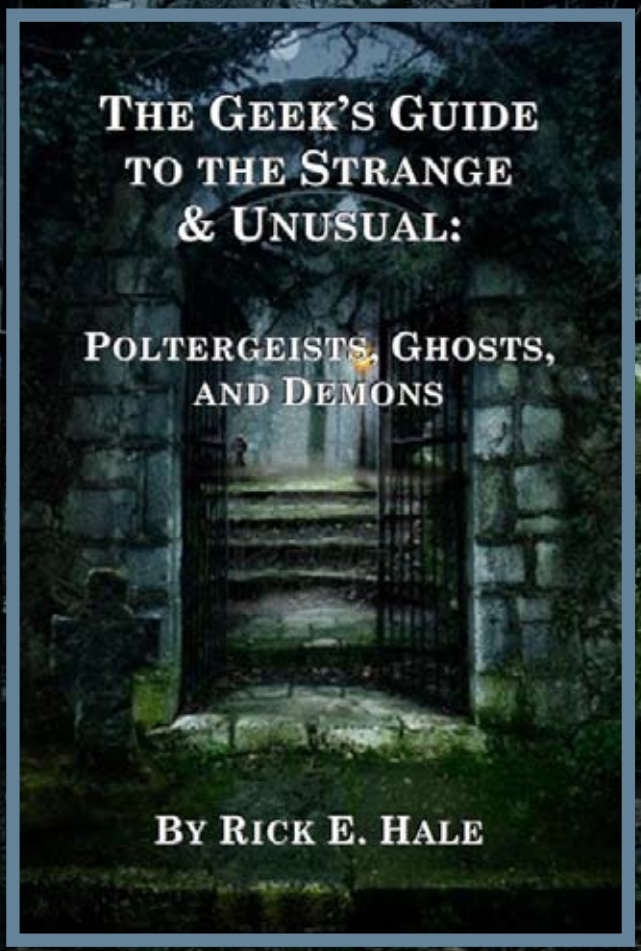
Allow yourself to move into your heart chakra and feel the love that resides there. This is the basis of who you are. It is the underlying structure of the entire Universe.

Love waits peacefully there inside of you, ready for you to remember it and accept it as your true state of being.

Read Karen's new energy healing book, "Higher Vibes Toolbox: Vibrational Healing for an Empowered Life," which is available on Amazon. ◆

The Geek's Guide to the Strange & Unusual: Poltergeists, Ghosts, and Demons

Rick E. Hale's book about unexplainable paranormal phenomena explores many of the world's most intriguing paranormal cases and haunted locations, including the Demon Drummer of Tedworth, Lucedio Abbey, the Dagg poltergeist, and three cases of possession, among many others.



Book Now Available Online at Amazon.com

THE CHALLENGE

By Willie Windwalker Gibson

I occasionally set up in various shops and do animal totem readings for a few hours. Usually, I have no problem with people watching me doing readings. They are very curious, because they have never learned of the Native ways of the totems and how animals give us messages.

When I conduct these readings, I am usually met with positive responses from my clients. They usually have a wonderful time with the animal spirits. I tell them who their animal totems are and that they are always around them for guidance and protection. Those I connect with are very happy when I tell them they can talk with the animals and the animals will hear them.

Meeting Miranda

During one of my in-shop sessions, a woman walked in dressed in black. Her outfit looked like something Elvira would wear, and she was very frail. The woman walked over to my table and sat down in front of me. She put out her right hand and said that her name was Miranda.

I shook her frail hand and looked into her eyes. They were a dark blue and sort of shimmered in the light of the shop. She smiled at me and said that she had heard about me throughout the paranormal community. Miranda went on to say that she was wanting to meet me and get into my energy to see if I was a real shaman.

Miranda said that she was a solitary witch and that she practice shamanism on her own level. I looked at Miranda and started to scan her energy. It was strong, but it was very labored. I could tell Miranda was ill.

I asked Miranda if she would like an animal totem reading, but she declined and said that she just wanted to meet me. She wanted to feel my energy. Miranda told me that if she felt that I was a fake, she would challenge my shaman title and abilities.

I told her that there had been many people who had challenged me in the past and that I was not afraid of her investigating me. Miranda smiled and asked if she could hold my hand. I gave her my right hand in her left palm. Her body quickly got ridged, and she started to shake. After about a minute, she let my hand go and her body fell limp.

I asked her if she was OK. She smiled at me and said, "Yes. I have not felt such energy from a shaman before."

I looked at Miranda and asked her if she satisfied that I was who I said I was. She got up from the table, smiled, and walked away. I didn't think much more about it. Then one week later, Miranda walked up to my table again and sat down. She looked deep in my eyes and said, "Shaman, I am dying of lung cancer. Years of smoking has took its toll on me."

I looked at her and said that I was very sorry to hear that she was sick. She smiled and said to me that it was OK. She had a long life of fighting the darkness and that it was her time to go and leave the fight to someone else. Miranda told me that I would be the one to carry on the fight. That she was satisfied that I would be the one, one of many.

I opened the pouch, and in it was a bear claw. It was a gift of honor.

She went on to say that the world is in a fight with good and evil and that warriors of the light will come together one day as a spiritual army, fight the evil, and win. Miranda said that when she had challenged my energy, she knew that I was the Shaman Windwalker.

She then pulled a black pouch out of her pocket and gave it to me, telling me it was a gift of honor for me. I opened the pouch, and in it was a bear claw. I looked at Miranda and thanked her. She said the claw was gifted by a bear — that the claw had fallen off naturally and was given to her by a shaman she had met in the past. The claw was a gift of honor. The claw held the energy and wisdom of the bear. Shamans know that such a gift was one of respect to a shaman.

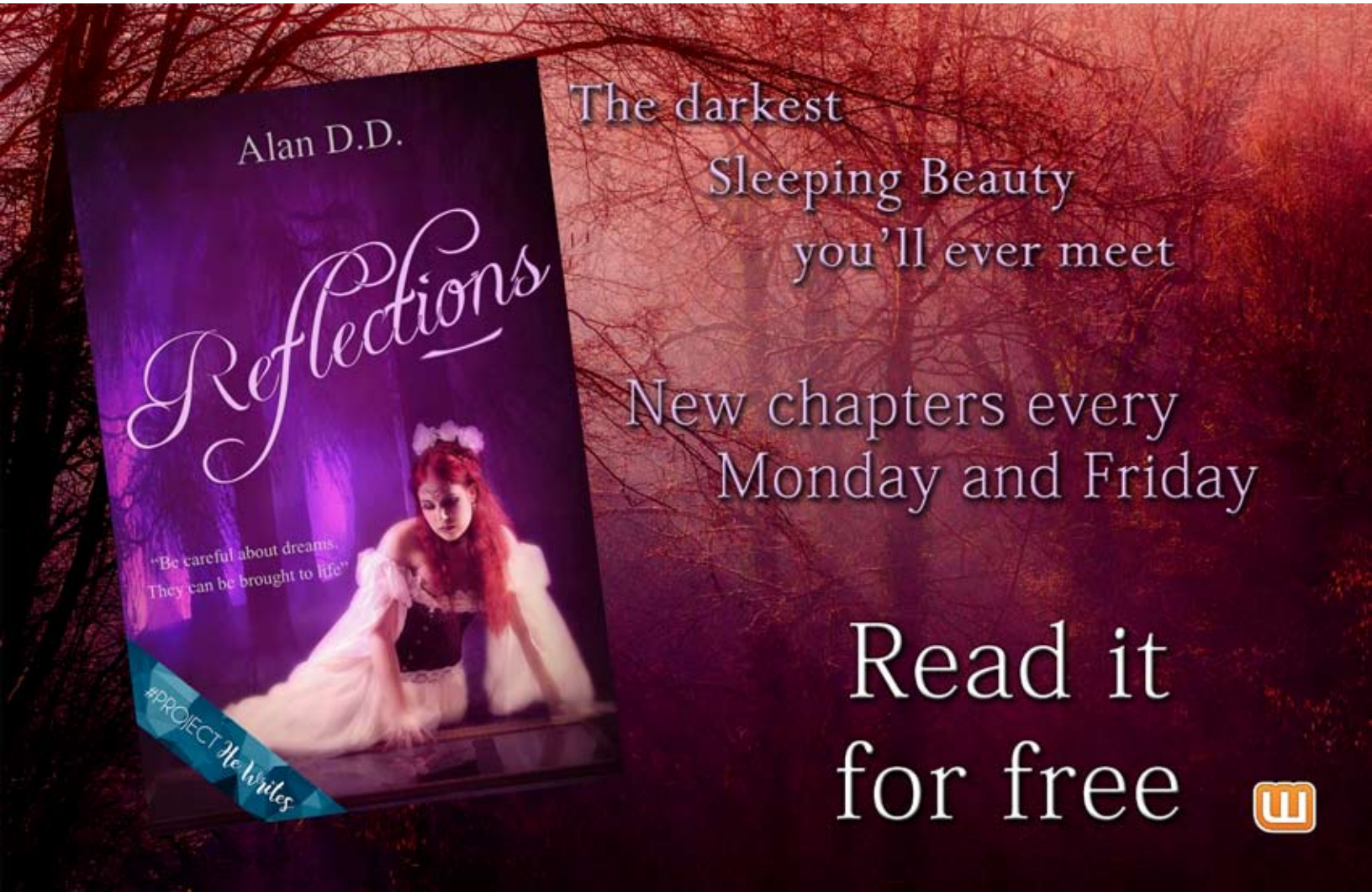
I looked at Miranda and saw a single tear flow from her right eye. I told her that I would like to give her some energy to help perk her up. She said she would love that. I got up and placed my hands on her shoulder and began to concentrate on giving Miranda some healing. After about five minutes, I took my hands off her and sat down. She seemed more peaceful.

She then stood up, told me goodbye, and walked slowly away. I sat back down and looked at the bear claw. I could see in a vision that the bear died from old age and gifted its body to the Universe.

About two weeks passed, and I wondered why I hadn't seen Miranda around. I asked the shop owner if she had seen Miranda. The shop owner looked at me and said Miranda had died a week earlier. She said that her daughter had found her sitting in a chair smiling. She had passed peacefully.

I went back to my table and sat down. I said out loud, "Good journey, Miranda. You've earned your rest. I will take the fight on and make you proud of me."

I have met many wonderful people in my journeys. Meeting Miranda was one of those great meetings burned into my memories. ◆



5 Haunted New England Hotspots for Paranormal Enthusiasts

By Krystle Vermes, getspooked.net

New England is the oldest portion of the U.S., yet it doesn't garner as much attention these days for its haunted locations. Despite the fact that people often associate New England with leaf peeping, much of the region is steeped in history that shouldn't be overlooked. More importantly, its age makes it ripe for paranormal activity.

Let's take a look at five locations in New England that fly under the radar when it comes to spooks and thrills.

Quaker Cemetery (Leicester, Massachusetts)

This cemetery is also known to locals as Spider Gates for its opening gates that resemble spiderwebs. Sometimes referred to as the "eighth gate to Hell," this cemetery has everything — legends of satanic rituals, murders, and hauntings.

The cemetery is located on the grounds where the old Quaker Meeting House used to be located. Today, many people have spotted orbs and apparitions on the grounds.

Archer-Gilligan Murder House (Windsor, Connecticut)

This is the former home of Amy Archer-Gilligan, who was accused of murdering at least 60 people with poison at the location when she ran it as a facility for the elderly. The large, brick building has since been turned into apartment units. However, that hasn't stopped locals from deeming it one of the creepier properties in the area.

Sterling Opera House (Derby, Connecticut)

This building originally opened its doors in April 1889 and sat 1,200 people in its auditorium. Some of the biggest entertainers of the early 20th century performed at the Sterling, including Harry Houdini.

The Sterling Opera House, which opened in 1889, sits in Derby, Connecticut. Reported paranormal activity at the site includes witnesses seeing apparitions and capturing EVPs.

Although it had fallen into disrepair by the mid-20th century, locals were quick to raise money for its restoration. Since then, the opera house has been a hotspot for paranormal activity, despite not having one particular tragedy associated with the location. Investigators have seen apparitions and caught multiple EVPs within the opera house since it's been reopened.

Paine House (Coventry, Rhode Island)

This structure passed hands several times after it was initially constructed back in the 1690s. It wasn't until 1866

The Paine House in Coventry, Rhode Island (pictured at left), is home to disembodied voices and furniture moving on its own. And visitors to Quaker Cemetery in Leicester, Massachusetts (pictured at right), see orbs and apparitions on the grounds.

that the Paine family actually moved in. Although there is little known tragedy associated with the home, it was undoubtedly full of the emotions of its inhabitants over the centuries.

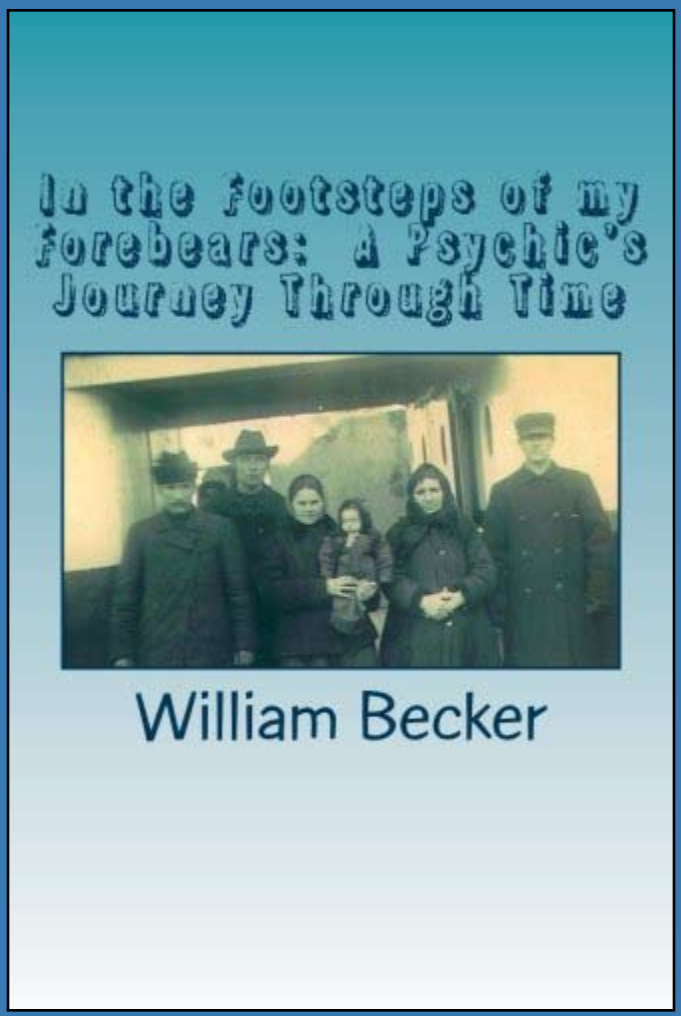
Today, paranormal investigators have been able to record unusual voices at the location, and some people have witnessed furniture moving on its own.

The Captain Grant's (Preston, Connecticut)

This inn dates back to 1754 when it was built by Captain William Grant, who simply wanted a home for his wife and children. During the Revolutionary War, soldiers of the Continental Army were garrisoned at the location. Escaped slaves were sheltered at the home during the Civil War.

The town's first cemetery was eventually established behind the inn as well.

Today, the property is thought to be haunted by Captain Grant's wife, Mercy, who is endlessly waiting for him to return from a trip out to sea. Some people have also reported loud bangs, disembodied voices, and things disappearing throughout the inn with no explanation. ◆



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What Is a BOOK OF MIRRORS?

By Bader Saab

Most witches have a personal grimoire, a *Book of Shadows*, a notebook where they write their spells, rituals, dreams, among others things. Another important book in a witch's library is a *Book of Mirrors*.

In addition to a *Book of Shadows* (which we've described in past issues of *Paranormal Underground*), a *Book of Mirrors* is among the most useful tools a witch can have. But what is a *Book of Mirrors*?

A Witchy Diary

You may think of a *Book of Mirrors* as your private diary; the difference is that you write about your craft in it, your dreams, the tarot readings you do, how spells work out, which rituals worked, what you think about certain witchcraft-related topics, and anything else you can think of.

A *Book of Mirrors* is used by some Wiccans who think devotion and study should be recorded in one place, the *Book of Shadows*, and personal reflections, such as opinions and experiences, should be written in another place, a *Book of Mirrors*.

In this book, witches usually take note of the results of their spells and rituals, what worked, what didn't work, their feelings during those experiences, their dreams, and divination sessions. Just as with the *Book of Shadows*, there are no strict rules you need to follow with a *Book of Mirrors*.

You can include drawings, poems, write in verse, do it as a fiction novel, use an elaborate font, whatever you think works for you. The idea is that, as with any other diary or journal, it should resonate with you by making it personal and very special to you.

I prefer to have a lot of writing and some vines here

Pictured above is my personal *Book of Mirrors*, where I write my personal reflections about experiences, including my opinions of spellwork, rituals, dreams, tarot readings, and any other witchcraft-related topics.

When was the last time opening your mailbox gave you the chills?

Get $5 off your subscription with code **PARANORMAL5** at **creepycrate.store**

CREEPY CRATE
BY THE LINEUP

and there because of personal reasons, and I also color them in two different ways, depending on what they represent. Would I prefer to have amazing artwork and frames and fancy fonts on it? Sure, but I'm not capable of that, so I found something I can do, and that works well for me.

What NOT to Do

However, there is one thing I would advise you to always avoid when working on a *Book of Mirrors*, and that is doing it in digital format. The reason is simple: Internet, and the digital world in general, tend to be a big distraction, which you shouldn't allow when working in your *Book of Mirrors*.

To say something is sacred is to give it the quality it deserves. You do not want to rewrite your initial thoughts once you have recorded them in your *Book of Mirrors*, if possible. Since this book is sacred, you need to pay it the right amount of respect: Make sure you're focused on it. There's no middle ground for this, and to fully focus, you need no distractions, no second thoughts.

Since it is such a special tool, you should never let anyone read its pages. This is to preserve your self-respect and sense of privacy: We should always have our own space, our little secret, not because there is something wrong with it, but because it is completely ours.

There's nothing wrong with letting people know your opinions about certain topics, but keep in mind that your *Book of Mirrors* is a private book that contains thoughts about meditation, medicine, communication with the divine, and so on. It's a reflection of your soul. Such a special thing should be only for your eyes, shouldn't it?

Should You Have a 'Book of Mirrors?'

The answer is always personal. Some may want to do it because of the joy of writing, others to keep a record, others to meditate, but in my case it is because I use writing as a form of therapy.

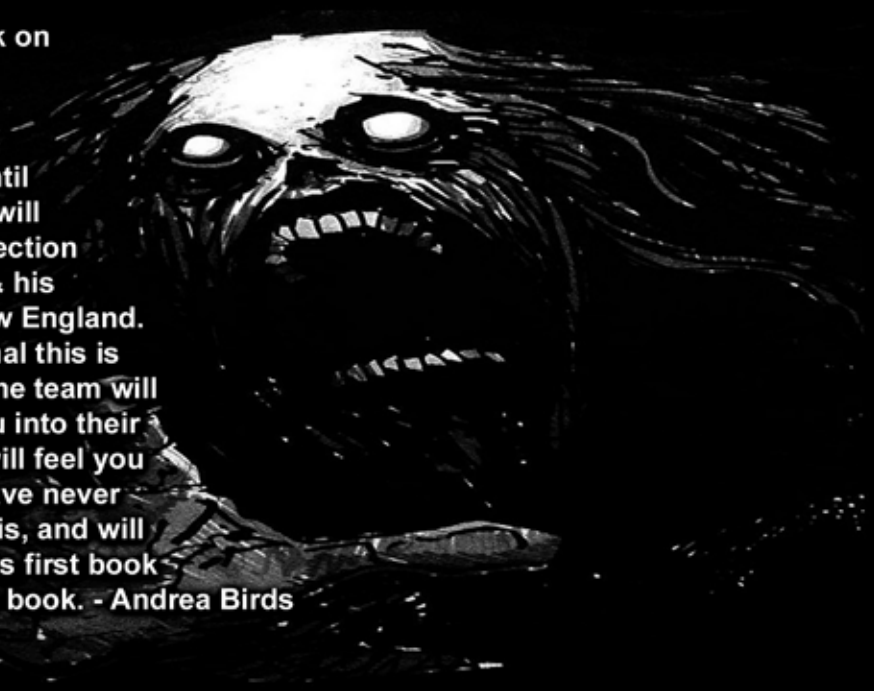
There are times when I do not understand why certain things happen or why they might not happen, so I use the book to reflect on what I should take from those events. Thinking in the form of written words is what helps me to close the cycle and achieve a final thought.

I am also part of that group of people who think of life as if it were a book we are always writing. And to have experiences and then write my thoughts and opinions in an actual book seems right for me.

If using this book feels right to you, then it may be your favorite tool. It certainly is in my case. And it's OK if you don't write in the book every day.

While keeping a *Book of Mirrors* is not mandatory, I do recommend it as a way to see your past self and see how much you change. The results will most likely amaze you. ◆

S.P.I.R.I.T.S. of New England
Hauntings, Ghosts & Demons



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DESTINATION AMERICA

The Fear of History Repeating Itself

By Ian White

About 18 months ago(ish) I interviewed the author Nuzo Onoh for *Paranormal Underground* magazine. You might remember Nuzo — she's a wonderful writer, the "Queen of African Horror," and she also appeared on *Paranormal Underground Radio* a little while after the interview was published. In fact, Nuzo has recently released a new novel — *Dead Corpse* — which I've just started to read, and I think it might be the best thing she's ever written, but that's getting off the point!

If you look back at our interview with Nuzo in the July 2016 magazine, you won't be surprised to learn that I came away from our chat more than a little moved by what Nuzo told me about her childhood in Nigeria, how she was taken to the river in the middle of the night to be exorcised because she had problems at school, and her views about the witchcraft-related abuse that is still taking place in that country. Of course, we've all heard of isolated incidents of witchcraft abuse, but I'd never studied it in any detail, and I had no idea of its scale. To discover it was so endemic really shocked me.

So, after talking to Nuzo, I decided to do some research of my own to find out how much witchcraft/ritual abuse is taking place in other parts of the world and especially in the U.S. and the U.K., where I live. Apart from dredging up a lot of heart-breaking stories from books, newspapers, and the Internet, I found it impossible to come up with actual statistics. In fact, I was shut down by agencies on both sides of the Atlantic — most of them didn't even respond to my requests.

Even when I made a Freedom of Information (FoL) application to every police force and social welfare agency across the U.K., none of the welfare agencies responded and most of the police forces refused my request on the

grounds it would be too expensive and time consuming to do the appropriate searches (that's a neat little loop-hole most organizations use when an FoL application lands on their desk).

Project Violet, which (and I'm quoting from the email they sent me) "is the Metropolitan Police Service's strategic response to child abuse linked to faith and belief," did supply me with a set of barebones statistics from 2005-2016, which suggested there's been a marked increase in incidents (from 21 in 2005 to 44 in 2015) although that's only for the London area and; without any other details and with no way to break those numbers down further, that really doesn't tell me much.

I also contacted a number of organizations and charities that are involved with rescuing and protecting witchcraft abuse victims, and they indicated that the problem is on the increase. But the majority of their work was in the African countries, so they couldn't give me any useful information about the U.K. or U.S. Please don't misunderstand me, I am hugely concerned about what's happening in Africa, etc., but it's the global picture I was particularly interested in.

Still, by then it had become apparent that I would never be able to gather the quality of information I'd need to write any kind of informed article on the subject, so I reluctantly let the idea go.

It wasn't until after I interviewed Syd Moore for the December 2017 issue of *Paranormal Underground* magazine that I began to think about it again, and I wondered if there isn't another way to approach this. If you've read that interview, you'll know that Syd and I talked a lot about historical witch hunts and the danger of letting history repeat itself. That conversation has resonated with me a lot, especially in the current political climate.

A few years ago I wrote a book called *Witchcraft and Black Magic in British Cult Cinema*, which I like to think is a little different from the normal horror movie-type book, because I tried to go into some detail about real witchcraft and how accurately (or not) the movies portray it. When the book was published, I was criticized by a few movie nerds because they thought it was just a propaganda piece for Wicca and Paganism rather than a serious book about horror films. And although I don't agree with them, I've got to admit I'm secretly happy if that's the impression they came away with.

For the record, I love a good witchcraft movie, but the genre is a hotbed of entertaining ridiculousness and

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factual misinformation, which wouldn't be so bad if some viewers could distinguish between fact and fiction. But after writing about films and TV (as well as for film and TV) for many years, I know a lot of viewers can't. I actually talked to someone quite recently who thought *The Craft* was based on a true story because "how else would the writer have known some of those things? And Fairuza Balk bought an occult shop in real life didn't she? Everyone knows she's a black witch." (Yep, this is my world, people!) So, if my book helped to give a few readers a small appreciation of what witchcraft is actually about, I'm glad I could put the record straight.

> "I think a tulpa of hate and fear is being manifested across the globe, and it's time to stop it."

More than that, researching the book put me into contact with several practicing witches (a couple of whom have become very good friends), and I'm occasionally asked to talk to groups about the subject, which has given me the opportunity to talk to more practicing witches and become friends with one or two of them as well.

I don't practice witchcraft myself (although I'm so fascinated by the "binding Trump" movement that I've got to admit I'm tempted), but I have a tremendous empathy for the craft and a feeling of solidarity toward most of the people I've met who are involved in it. I also believe that we all have access to energies that, if we knew how to channel them, could be considered magical. I'm currently doing a lot of research into the magical potential of art and creativity, and almost every day I discover something new that quietly blows my mind.

But here's the epiphany I felt after chatting with Syd ... that witchcraft/ritual abuse is only one nasty piece of a much bigger puzzle. I've spoken to more than a few witches (and mediums and vampires and even paranormal investigators) who have all experienced hostility and prejudice because of what they believe and how they conduct their lives. I've talked to witches who won't tell people they're witches (sometimes even people who are close to them) because they've been ridiculed or abused in the past. I've met people who have been physically attacked, whose families have been threatened and property damaged. I've talked to owners of occult stores who have been ostracized by their community, had death threats posted on their doors and rocks thrown through their windows, and investigators who have been mocked and bullied for just quietly trying to do their research.

In my uneducated opinion, this is a truly exciting time for all of us, whether we're witches, vampires, psychics, paranormal investigators, ghost hunters, or just sympathetic observers and cheerleaders (like me) who are waving our pom-poms on the sidelines. But I think it's also a dangerous time, with fear and hostility on the increase in Trump-U.S., in Brexit-U.K., and across a world that is growing more and more politically, nationally, and religiously divided. And while interest in witchcraft and other "alternative" belief systems and lifestyles seem to be more popular than ever, the detractors are gathering strength too.

There's a tide of fascism sweeping across the globe that isn't very different from a century ago. Just look at what's happened in the past 18 months alone, the liberties we're losing, the escalation in political and social unrest ... are we really that far away from plunging back into the Dark Ages? I truly hope I'm wrong, but I'm not sure it takes too much imagination to picture witchfinders back on the streets again.

Here's my bottom line: I passionately believe this is a subject that isn't talked about enough and, with your help, I would like to write an in-depth article (maybe a series of articles) about it, bringing to light the prejudices and difficulties that we all face as members of this wonderful paranormal community. I'll be writing it for *Paranormal Underground* magazine, but in a naïve attack of optimism, I'm also hoping that we might be able to get it out there into the wider world so that people on the outside can be made aware of what's going on.

But I don't just want to focus on the negatives we face; I also want to underline how positive and powerful our various beliefs and lifestyles are: whether we're witches or vampires, psychics or investigators, in a world of growing ignorance and fear, most of us are trying to bring balance back to the planet and expand the consciousness and knowledge that's available to everyone if only they could stop being afraid and open their eyes to what is unseen and what could be.

I think a tulpa of hate and fear is being manifested across the globe, and it's time to stop it.

But for the article(s) to happen I need your help. I would be interested and honored to hear your thoughts and opinions on this subject, especially if you or someone you know has experienced the issues I've been talking about. I promise that everything you tell me will be in confidence. I will respect everybody's anonymity, and I won't use the information you give me without your permission. All I want to do is try and get our stories out there and send the message: *Don't let history repeat itself.*

If you'd like to contact me, or if you have any questions, please drop me a line at ianwhitelondon@hotmail.com. Thank you for reading! ◆

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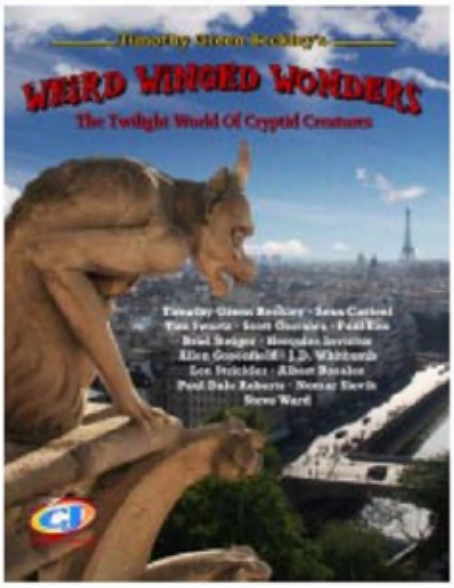

THEY ARE BELIEVED BY MANY TO BE THE AGENTS OF THE "DARK GODS!" - THEIR MASSIVE WINGS, WHEN SPREAD FANLIKE, ARE KNOWN TO CAST A PARALYZING SHADOW OVER THE LAND! THEY EXIST ALONGSIDE US IN THE "REAL WORLD," YET WE KNOW NEXT TO NOTHING ABOUT THEM! THEY APPEAR TO INHABIT PHYSICAL BODIES, BUT THEY COULD BE ARRIVING FROM OTHER DIMENSIONS OR FROM THE MULTIVERSE THROUGH "WINDOWS" OR PORTALS!

They are the Winged Wonders from the Twilight World of Cryptid Creatures.

Living Pterosaurs have been seen from Guantanamo AF Base in Cuba to the jungles of Papua, New Guinea where the locals call them the "Ropa."

They are the Flying Felines of the Egyptian dynasties to the Greek Heroes living in underground caverns on Mount Olympus.

Here is the Mothman Creature, initially seen around the hamlet of Point Pleasant, West Virginia, and associated with the collapse there of the Silver Bridge - but now recently observed by dozens of credible witnesses in downtown Chicago. Some researchers say Mothman is a harbinger of death.

The Jersey Devil is said to be a demon who flies near the Pine Barrens mainly in the dead of night, while the Thunderbirds are massive creatures with wingspans of more than 30 feet.

Dragons are thought of as beings rooted firmly in mythology and the stuff of movies such as "The Hobbit" and popular cable TV shows such as "Game of Thrones." Yet sightings of these aerial demons known to spit fire have been seen worldwide and are part of every culture - past and present - from Europe to the United States, and every continent in between.

Even more eerie are the flying and floating "alien" humanoids and witchy "bruhos" observed widely in Mexico and South America.

Here are dozens of the creepy-crawly narrations - backed up by the strangest of photographed evidence - of bizarre and unknown flying cryptids who frolic in our sky as if they have not a care in the world. Theories abound as to their origin(s) and nature and their overall grip on our perceived reality, as explored in this dramatic work by such respected researchers as Sean Casteel, Brad Steiger, Paul Eno, Allen Greenfield, Lon Strickler, Tim Swartz, Scott Corrales, Hercules Invictus, Jonathon David Whitcomb, Albert Rosales, Paul Dale Roberts, Steve Ward, Nomar Slevik, with the added editorial flare of "Exploring the Bizarre" co-host Tim Beckley.

Are they demons straight from hell or from an unknown shadow world? Ultra-terrestrials who have strayed into "our territory" from another time and space continuum? Or simply prehistoric monsters thought to have died out millions of years ago, but who still exist living just beyond our reach, ready to be rediscovered by science?

Whatever they are, they are truly BIZARRE!

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The *GRIMM* That Changed My Life

By Maria Anna van Driel, NextTruth.com

My name is Maria Anna van Driel. I'm the proud mother of three teenagers, a published book author, and a writer for paranormal magazines located in America, Germany, and the Netherlands.

Many people know me as a theoretical physicist who has a need to explain and prove paranormal events happening all over the world. But being a scientist was not my first choice of professions. I wanted to be something completely different ... being a tough, international truck driver sounded so cool to me.

But I was born as a psychopomp and psychometric medium, having the ability of manipulating the fluctuations in the element time (Euclidean space) by controlling my chakras and kundalini energies, as well as using particular breathing methods. This was not known to my parents during my early childhood.

During the first 12 years of my life, I did not have any knowledge of what it all meant or why certain things happened around me that were both crazy and terrifying — like thousands of fruit flies gathering in one spot on the ceiling of my bedroom just to disappear as quick as they came, water spontaneously flowing out of the tap without anyone being present in the kitchen, the sound of someone walking in the attic while being home alone, seeing black smudges lurking around the corners, knowing peoples thoughts, being visited by light creatures that had intense black eyes, seeing 3D objects move in a 4D dimension — something that is known today as the fluctuations within Euclidean space — and many more eerie moments, especially for a child).

But a strong capability like this cannot vanish by ignoring it, and believe me I tried extremely hard not to pay any attention to these unexplained events happening in my teen years. I did tell my parents, but they could not or would not, maybe due their own fears, help me.

I had to figure it out myself.

But figuring it out was not that simple, because I was a typical teenager — meaning that I wasn't listening at all to what was being presented to me.

Therefore, I had to learn it the hard way.

Meeting the Grimm

Let me tell you about my encounter with a malevolent, huge, bulky beast that is said to come from the deepest depths of the earth, the darkest forests you can find, or the most horrifying realm you can imagine. It is known as a Grimm.

I was about 12 years old and had become more or less used to the strange, and invisible happenings for others, around me. I had learned to let it not manipulate my daily activities all the time.

My enormous interest in astrology, astronomy, history, biology, and math at that time was obviously seen in my bookcase, which was full of books containing these themes. I also loved (which I still love to do) to get lost in the countless stars sparkling in the night sky and to let my mind wonder off to the different galaxies and new nations beyond our solar system.

Then, that one particular night changed my live instantly and ... forever!

My bed stood underneath my bedroom window, which allowed me to easily hang slightly out of the open window looking up to the dark sky and the stars like I did many nights before this one. I dreamed of what could be beyond the universal borders we know. But this particular night, when doing my dreaming, I suddenly got the feeling that the air was starting to get heavier, denser, and darker.

At first I thought it was my imagination and tried to ignore it ... this turned out to be impossible to do.

It was not my imagination ... it was real.

The air around me started to get denser until the moment my attention was drawn to a specific point in the darkness of the backyard, where an almost malevolent, dark smoke was sliding over the ground like a silk sheet.

I could not see shadows or a silhouette inside the eerie dark smoke, but somehow I knew that something massive was formed by it and was walking carefully up and down the garden as if it was waiting for the right moment to strike.

I could feel its energy ... I could smell its strong animal odor ... I could almost touch its tight black fur with my mind.

I could not hear it walking or its breathing, but I could feel its strong energy building up.

It was neither human nor animal.

Than it suddenly froze and turned its massive head toward me, looking me right in my eyes and through my soul ... it had a lock on me!

A Connection Is Made

It felt as if time slowed down while my brain activity was speeding up drastically. I leaned slightly backwards, took a slow, deep breath and felt how "its" energy was connected with mine, as if we had a telepathic connection.

Right at that moment the connection was made. It was a huge Grimm that looked like a six to seven feet tall, pitch-black wolf.

Without the need of a run-up, it jumped up from the back of the garden, which was about 10 meters below my

→

bedroom window and about 25 meters removed from the house, toward me.

His front paws, having enormous claws, were stretched out completely and were heading in my direction with enormous speed.

Within a blink of an eye, it had reached me.

Strangely enough, it stopped right in front of me ... it was levitating in midair!

I looked straight into its bright, almost fluorescent yellow eyes, which contained an enormous power in the sense of pure energy.

His front paws were stretched forward, and just before these enormous claws ended up in my face, I could see its deep black fur and the huge white teeth inside its mouth.

I felt the burning sensation as its claws were penetrating deep into the skin of my cheeks ... I literally could feel my skin being torn open.

Then the Grimm slowly started to disappear in front of my eyes; it was sliding back into the darkness of the night.

Even when I lost visual contact with this massive beast, I could still felt its presence as it ran through the streets ... back to where it came from.

It all felt so real — the beast, its florescent eyes, and its claws penetrating my skin. I had to touch my cheeks in order to convince myself that there were no deep and bloody cuts.

There were none. But I had not dreamed the experience. It really happened!

Baffled over what just happened, I sat back on my bed while the burning sensation in my face slowly faded.

I never told anyone about my experience for more than 27 years.

The Grimm Reappears 30 Years Later

After that childhood experience with the Grimm, I never saw it again ... until recently. It was standing underneath some trees watching me while I was walking one of my dogs one evening.

And on another evening this past summer, while my husband and I were sitting in the living room watching a movie, we both heard a loud growl coming from underneath the saloon table!

My Grimm was definitely back! Why it was back, I wasn't sure. But reflecting on the original experience with the Grimm, I took note of how it had changed my life.

After the first encounter in 1985, shocking as it was, it woke me up in a horrifying manner — but somehow I needed it in order for me to realize I was slightly different than the rest of the children in my neighborhood and classroom.

It showed me that it is possible to make contact with a reality many have forgotten over time, as well as how to use physics, for instance, to figure out how to calculate and create an entrance N. Poussin painted in *The Shepherd's of Arcadia*, which I reference in an article in the May 2016 issue of *Paranormal Underground*.

It taught me how to be a mystic and set me on a path that lies between science and religion. I became a theoretical physicist who thinks up the craziest ideas in advanced technologies.

During the past 12 months, I have studied as much as possible about world mysteries. For example, in relation to demonic activities as they are described in the Roman Rites, I spoke with several Romanian, Italian, and German priests who have a deep knowledge concerning the many faces of exorcism. In speaking with these priests, some told me I have to work with my capability as a psychopomp.

During the past year, I also spoke to several prominent scientists who have witnessed stunning effects during strange experiments concerning things like fluctuations between two 2D objects and crazy acting quark–gluon plasma.

These past 12 months made me decide to step into these mysterious forces that existed before the birth of the Nine Realms with full awareness of all the tricks and traps that come with it and to fight back, not with fire, but with the written word. ◆

Maria Anna van Driel author of;

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'Furred Lines'

By Renee George

Q&A by Michelle M. Pillow, MichellePillow.com

USA Today bestselling author Renee George writes paranormal mysteries and romances because she loves all things whodunit, otherworldly, and weird. She lives in Missouri with her family, including her husband, their man-child, a lovable pit bull, a cantankerous beagle, and two rescue cats. She spends her non-writing time doing really cool stuff ... like watching TV, sifting kitty litter, and cleaning up dog poop.

Her newest light paranormal, mystery romance, titled *Furred Lines* (Peculiar Mysteries Book 7), just released in January.

* * * * *

Q: In your book *Furred Lines,* your hero is a bear shifter and your heroine is a raccoon shifter. What inspired you to create such characters?

Renee: Both characters were introduced in previous novels in the series. Dominic Tartan, the bear shifter, is an FBI agent who lives in the human world as an integrator, and the heroine, Nicole Taylor, the raccoon shifter, grew up in the therianthropic (animal shifter) town of Peculiar in the Ozarks.

Dominic showed up in Peculiar in *Thank You For Not Shifting* as an undercover FBI agent working for the Tri-State Therianthrope Council. Really, though, he'd been chasing a supernatural killer across three states. I'd always planned to bring him back to Peculiar because a) he has a great sense of humor, and b) he's hot, hot, hot.

With Nicole, it was a little different. Her father is the sheriff, and initially she was another character I created to add color to the world. However, when I wrote her into *In the Midnight Howl*, there was something so cool and quirky about Nicole that I wanted to give her a story of her own. And it worked out perfect for Dominic, who I'd always planned to bring back to Peculiar as a hero.

When paranormal mystery and romance author Renee George is not writing about mystery-solving werecougars or the adventures of a hapless psychic living among shapeshifters, she dons her superhero cape and rescues kittens.

Q: When world building, did you base your story off of known myths throughout history?

Renee: The characters and town in this series were inspired by the years that I lived in the Missouri Ozarks. I thought about this fictional community for years before I started writing the stories. I wondered what it would be like to live in a town full of animal shifters who mirrored the animals that actually exist in the area. So, in Peculiar, we have shifters that are coyotes, opossums, deer, squirrels, bears, raccoons, red foxes, and beavers, as well as one gray wolf shifter.

I used the classical werewolf myth that makes my shifters have to turn into their animal forms on the first full moon. Even still, while they age slower than humans, they are not immortal, and when they are wearing their human form, they are only a little stronger than regular humans. Also, like humans, they are not immune to illnesses.

In my world, some therianthropes called integrators choose to live in human communities, suppressing their animal nature and only changing when they are forced to (on the full moon), while other therianthropes choose to live in fully therianthropic communities that are hidden from humans so they can enjoy their dual-nature any time they wish.

Also, while the Peculiar Mysteries are romances, they are also whodunit mysteries mixed with healthy doses of humor, suspense, drama, and love.

Q: Do you have any paranormal theories?

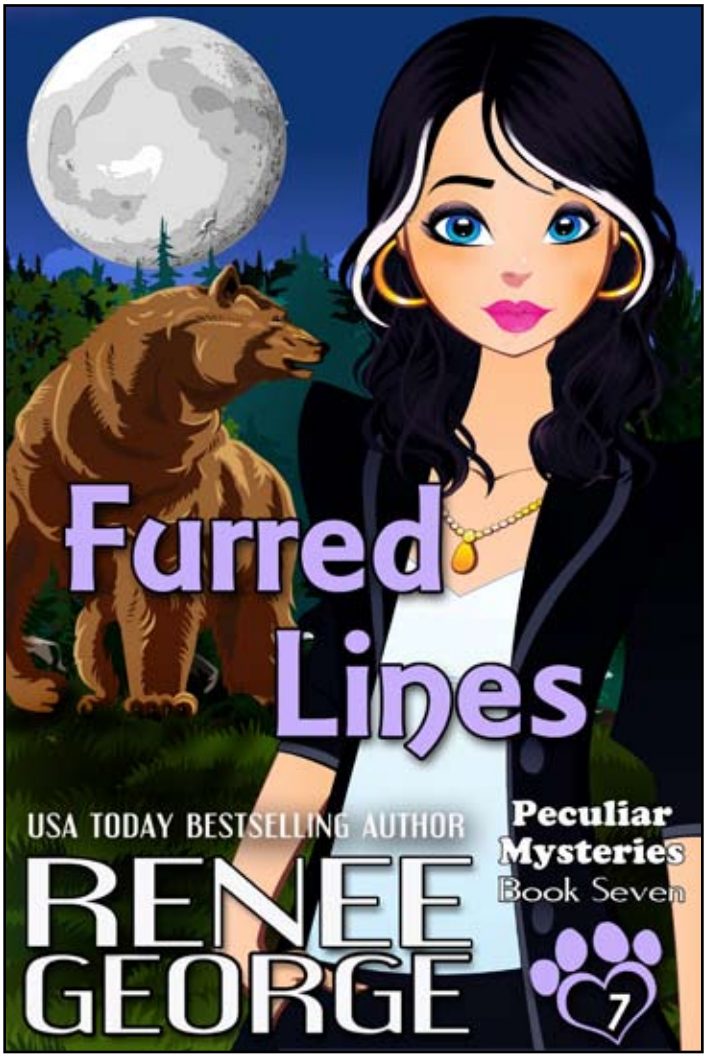
Renee: I wrote a series where paranormal and supernatural creatures are just another link in the chain of evolution. That circumstances forced DNA changes in certain lines of Neanderthals and Cro-Magnons and caused several branches of homo sapiens that include modern man, shifters, vampires, ghosts, demons, elves, fairies, giants, ogres, and more. That's as close as I get to having an actual theory. *grin*

Q: Why do you think readers are fascinated by the paranormal?

Renee: Initially, I think the paranormal was used to scare children (*Grimm Fairy Tales*, for examples) or to serve as a warning for those who stepped out of line (the Salem witch trials, for example), but it has evolved thanks to the advent of such great characters as Shelly's Frankenstein (scary and misunderstood) and Stoker's Dracula (scary, predator, but is able to love) into what we see in books and movies today.

It's the idea that these creatures — who are stronger than humans, live longer (sometimes they are immortal), have magical abilities (levitation, conjuring, changing shapes, etc.), and have this beauty and vitality that can't be matched by regular people — make us fantasize about dating someone paranormal or being someone paranormal.

Some want to believe in ghosts and spirits, because it means that this life isn't the end, that there is something more beyond this world. It makes them fear death a little less. And some people, like myself, find escape in the paranormal. When real life and human problems, like paying bills, illnesses, broken hearts, and such, can get too overwhelming at times, having a magical world to immerse yourself in can be a lifesaver. I know that these worlds got me through some tough times when I was younger, so I might be projecting.



"Wereraccoon Nicole Taylor, a recent Quantico graduate, is eager to prove herself. She's been assigned to work with oh-so-yummy field agent and werebear Dominic Tartan to catch the serial therianthrope kidnapper Little Piggy."

Q: What are your favorite paranormal shows, movies, and books?

Renee: It might be easier to say what I don't like. LOL. There are so many book series, and I hate to mention them because, as an author, I'm afraid I'll leave someone out that I know and love, and I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings. However, I'm happy to list my favorite TV series and movies.

Television series: *Supernatural*, *Teen Wolf* (MTV series), *Grimm*, *Being Human* (UK version), *Ghost Wars* (recent show), *Penny Dreadful* (Season 1), *Sanctuary*,

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"Peculiar Mysteries series from *USA Today* bestselling author Renee George are laugh-out-loud, grip-the-edge-of-your-seat, and swoon-as-you-fall-in-love tales of mystery, humor, and romance that take place in the small (fictional) Ozark shifter town of Peculiar, Missouri."

The Originals, *Angel*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Wolf Lake*, *Moonlight*, *Lost Girls* (Season 1), *Midnight Texas*, (and many more, but since you said just a few ...).

Movies: *Underworld* (all of them!), *Dracula*, *Dracula 2000*, *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, *The Lost Boys*, *Interview With a Vampire*, *Dracula Untold*, *Blade* (all of them! Well, maybe not the last one), *Harry Potter* (all of them!), and a bunch more.

Q: Do you believe in the supernatural?

Renee: Alas, I'm a skeptic. It doesn't mean that I wouldn't totally be blown away if someone proved me wrong.

Q: What does the future hold for your Peculiar Mysteries?

Renee: I am planning new books involving prior couples from the other novels so that I can once again write from the perspective of characters I've fallen in love with. Besides, even married couples need romance and adventure, right? Look for more Peculiar books in 2018, 2019, and 2020.

Q: Have you ever been to a psychic?

Renee: At the 2007 Romantic Times in Houston, Texas I consulted a Tarot Card Reader. She flipped up four aces (Ace of Wands, Ace of Cups, Ace of Swords, and Ace of Pentacles). She told me she'd never had a reading where all four aces came up and that it meant I had unlimited potential and that if I put forth the effort, there wasn't anything I couldn't achieve. It was kind of awesome.

Q: If you could time slip to any year, when would you go?

Renee: 3000 A.D. I'd love to see what the next new millennium holds, especially for women. Plus, driving a flying car would be super cool.

Q: How feasible is a zombie apocalypse?

Renee: OK, I didn't know zombies were a part of this thing. I love zombies, including *Walking Dead*, *Fear the Walking Dead*, *The Girl With All the Gifts*, *28 Days Later*, *28 Weeks Later*, *Scouts Guide to the Zombie Apocalypse*, *Shaun of the Dead*, and so many more!

Do I think the zombie apocalypse is possible? Absolutely, and it will start with a seemingly harmless sneeze initiated by a deli counter worker at the local Walmart.

Q: Would you rather face being abducted by menacing aliens or face imminent threat of zombies?

Renee: I would totally rather face zombies. They are slow and dumb and only dangerous in hordes. Aliens are smart and sneaky, and it only takes one to take out a whole survivor's camp of humans.

Q: If you could be anywhere while writing, where would you be and why?

Renee: In a condo by the lake by myself. I can get a lot of writing done when I have zero distractions. It's a cycle of write, nap, soak in the hot tub, repeating the cycle until the book is done. This scenario has only happened once, but I keep dreaming it will happen again. LOL.

* * * * *

To learn more about Renee George and her books, visit http://www.romance-the-night.com. ◆

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Spirit Attachment, Spirit Possession, or Paranormal Refugee?

By Jack Kenna, SpiritsOfNewEngland.org

Anyone who knows me knows I am not a very political person. But over the past year or so, the protests, debates, and court actions regarding the temporary ban on refugees from seven Middle Eastern countries and how various groups, political parties, and individuals view refugees and the rights that should be afforded them got me thinking about how we in the paranormal community view what we call spirit attachments and possessions.

We all see these things as purely negative and harmful to the individual being affected. We concern ourselves with helping the person experiencing the attachment or the possession with no thought given to the spirit who has attached themselves or taken possession of the human. But what about them?

What happens to the spirit when we remove or banish them? Shouldn't we be concerned for the attached or possessing entity at least as much as we are concerned for the human they are attached to or possessing?

I know what you're thinking ... "What are you talking about?! Have you lost your mind?!" Maybe ... All I ask is that you hear me out before you decide to banish me instead of the entities.

Let's start with something we can mostly all agree upon, that attachments and/or possessions typically occur to a human that either knowingly or unwittingly has invited the opportunity for an entity to attach to or possess them.

We have seen this time and time again with people who watch paranormal TV shows and then go out on their own to investigate a haunted location — like they see the people on TV do but with no knowledge of real paranormal investigating or how to protect themselves from the spirit world. They go out looking to have an "experience," to see a ghost, to have fun, etc.

Then there are those who delve into the Dark Arts or Satanic rituals. Others decide to use a spirit board in their own home to invite an entity to come to them. Yes, most of these people have no clue what they are really doing or asking for, but is that the fault of the entity they have conjured up or openly invited into their life?

This is where I think a better term for these entities that have been invited by the human to cross the spiritual border into their life would be "paranormal refugee." If we consider that many of us in the paranormal community believe that there are spirits and entities out there who are lost, confused, frightened, and also just plain evil looking for an opportunity to get out of their current pri-

vate hell of being trapped in a location or spiritual limbo, can we truly be angry or upset with them or even want to banish them back to the terrible place they came from when they have been freely invited by a living human being to be given refuge from their plight by that person's intentional, albeit often naive, actions?

So herein lies my concern of such situations: For whom should we seasoned investigators of the paranormal be more sympathetic toward, the displaced, forgotten, abandoned entity that was openly and freely invited into the life of the living human or for the person who thought it would be "fun" to go "ghost hunting" and have an "experience" ... or decided to dabble in dark magic or Satanic worship ... or thought it would be "fun" or "cool" to try and conjure a spirit through a spirit board to see what would happen and in doing so opened the spiritual border for an entity to cross over and become part of that person's life?

So again, might not these paranormal refugees deserve at least as much of our sympathy as the people affected by these entities who we are called upon to help? Don't at least some of these entities deserve our help as well? I believe it's at least something to consider; then again, maybe this whole commentary is nothing more than satirical sarcasm, but that's for you to decide. ◆

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